



PARENTS' BULLETIN: 16 OCTOBER, 2015

Thought for the Week

Most of us spend too much time on what is urgent and not enough time on what is important.

Stephen Covey

Important Dates

- 17/10/15: Service Learning Day (Grade 11)
- 17/10/15: Alumni v G12 Soccer for Adjavon Memorial Cup (10.00am)
- 17/10/15: TIS swimming championships part1 (4.00-5.30pm)
- 18/10/15: TIS swimming championships part 2 (4.00-5.30pm)
- 21/10/15: TIS Athletics Carnival (7.30am-4.00pm)
- 22/10/15: Board Meeting; MUN (Tema) Conference Day 1
- 23/10/15: Speaker of the Year Contest (2.00-4.00pm); MUN (Tema) Conference Day 2
- 24/10/15: MUN (Tema) Conference Day 3; Mid-semester break begins; ACT
- 30/10/15: Mid-Semester Reports Available; Creative Writers' Conference Day 1
- 31/10/15: Creative Writers' Conference Day 2
- 1/11/15: Mid-semester break ends: students return to school by 5.00pm
- 2/11/15: Classes resume
- 6/11/15: 3-Way Performance Interviews (7.30am-1.00pm); Careers Expo (2.00-5.00pm)

Swimming and Athletics Championships

To ensure some balance in November, especially with the Annual School Play scheduled for 20-21 November, the TIS swimming championships will be conducted on this Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 4.00-5.30pm. On Wednesday, the TIS athletics carnival will be held in lieu of classes. The outcome of both events will be colour points and selection of school teams for interschool events in November.

Correction

Last week I mentioned PGCSE to Sixth Form and kept referring to PGCSE. In fact, I was referring to IGCSE. My apologies for any confusion.



Use of ipods in TIS

Students can have / use ipods in the hostels but this is not a requirement by TIS and parents should not feel obliged to purchase them if that's against their wishes.

G12 IB Entries: Final Reminder

We have requested copies of G11 and 12 passports to verify student data. This is critical so that the correct name appears on the IB DP diploma when it has been awarded. Entries for the current G12 students will be made during the first week of November. Any changes after this date incurs a fee.

- The spelling of a student's name and their DOB are listed in ManageBac (MB). All parents of students in G11-12 have been sent an invitation to access MB. Please check your son's/daughter's details to ensure accuracy.
- Any change in name details for G12 students after 1 November will be a parent's responsibility.
- Please email Dr Ken if you are unable to access MB (parents of G11-12 students only).

G10 and 11 Summer Vacations

Parents of students in Grade 10, and especially Grade 11, are recommended to use the summer vacation, especially if they are travelling to England or USA, to visit some of the universities and colleges that your son/daughter is interested in making an application for their undergraduate studies. This is a perfect time for a tour of campus and meeting with admission officers to determine whether the institution is a 'right fit' for your son/daughter. Institutions may sound nice and read well, but does it make it the best university? Time spent on these personal visits may make the whole admission process easier with a better understanding of what individual universities and colleges require from prospective students.

3-Way Performance Interviews: Save This Date

On Friday, 6 November, 3-way performance interviews will be conducted from 7.30am-1.00pm. This will be an opportunity for parents, their child/ren and teachers to discuss student performance during the first mid-semester. Interviews will be limited to 10 minutes to ensure parents can meet as many teachers as possible. In next week's Newsletter, specific details and instructions will be provided to parents about booking their interview times with individual teachers online, prior to the event.

Following this interview session, there will be a Careers Expo in the TIS Sports Complex and parents may wish to visit the expo with their children.



TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Mid-Semester Exams

Most classes have concluded their exams today. Grade 10 will complete their exams on Monday.

Grade 10 and Personal Laptops

Grade 10 will be able to use their personal laptops at school on their return from mid-semester break. Student use will be contingent upon using the TIS-domain. They must have a protective sleeve or carry case. No personal modems are allowed.

November Newsletter

The next edition of the Newsletter will be published next Friday, 23 October.

Provisional IGCSE Examination Timetable

Business Studies was omitted from the schedule in last week's bulletin. The corrected provisional timetable is included in this week's bulletin.

IB Diploma Updates

Students are giving their best in the mid-semester exams and my team is looking forward to meeting parents on 6 Nov to discuss their performance in person with you. Please note your ward's answer sheet will be with the teacher till this date, and will be handed over to you or your ward after the 3-way conference. We hope you are able to navigate ManageBac effectively to know about your ward, Please feel free to contact Mr. Dev or Principal for any issues.

Grade 12 students will be on a home stretch in completing their internal assessments and extended essay in the next 2 months. I will update you periodically if your ward needs your motivation to keep up with the deadlines.

I wish to inform the parent body that TIS completed the 5 year evaluation of its IBDP program. We have submitted all the requisite documents and will share the outcome of the evaluation once we hear from IB.

Looking forward to your feedback to further improve the Diploma Program delivery.



Head of Boarding

- **Challenges at the Gate**

A gentle reminder to our parents when collecting and returning their children at school. The gate should be closed by 5:00 p.m. It is a difficult situation for security guards to let parents understand that they are not allowed to extend the time and open gates for the late parents waiting outside the gate. It is advisable that parents leave TIS by 5pm and this also applies on Visiting Sundays.

- **Appropriate dress at TIS.**

Uniform are not to be altered to become tight or short in length. Skirts should be at the knee for all girls. Loose tops are recommended as appropriate attire after school hours and not the body hugging or tight ones for comfort. Some boys also alter their uniform, school polo tops as well as trousers to be slim fitted. We will see students who have altered their uniforms to undo the seams or otherwise issue new ones and parents will be billed.

We have observed that students have clothes in the hostel that are not allowed to be worn at TIS. These include “Body Con”(very tight hugging dresses and skirts) ,mini skirts, leggings and cut out or tattered jeans that expose their thighs. Students are not allowed to wear them and will be asked to change their clothes before stepping out of their rooms. Sanctions apply for repeated infringements.

Hair Styles and Hair Dye

Parents are reminded when taking their children to the salon during this mid-semester break to ensure that no artificial hair colours are used on their children’s hair. Hair should be either black or dark brown depending on their natural hair color. Also braids should not be too long. Mid back length is appropriate. Hair extensions used should match the natural hair color of your child.

ASCC US Update

College Sessions – Recap

Last Friday, our IB students had the opportunity to play “admission officers” during their college advising session. Four student profiles were presented to eight different groups to make admission decisions (i.e. admit, waitlist or deny). Profiles included student transcripts, essays, recommendations, etc.

Our students truly appreciated the session. Some of our student reflections are as follows:

- *It is not an easy process to choose students*



- *The admission process is highly competitive*

We are happy to know that our students have learnt what it takes to get into selective universities and are preparing themselves towards the challenge.

On the same day, our students enjoyed the presentation from a representative of the University of Debrecen. It was interesting to listen to our alumnus, Araba Benyarko, share her warm experiences about the school's Medical Programme.

Test Updates

Yesterday, **25 Grade 10 students** took the PSAT. Our team extends its sincere appreciation to all parents for granting our students such a golden opportunity. We are also proud that our students took such a bold step; it was a good experience for them. Congratulations to all of our test takers!

Registration for **December SAT & ACT** is scheduled for **Friday, 16th October, 2015**. IB1s are especially encouraged to register. We believe that the earlier they take the tests, the more familiar and confident they become with the process.

October ACT exam takes place next week **Saturday, 24th October, 2015**. Students have been reminded that the **only** acceptable form of identification for the exam is the **valid unexpired passport**.

Personalized Attention

As part of our efforts to create more opportunities for personalized interaction with our students, our IB1 students have been assigned individual counsellors for college advising purposes. Each student has a weekly one on-one slot to discuss academic and college aspirations, challenges, etc. IB1 parents are entreated to begin discussions on college and country preferences with our students. This will complement our efforts and enable us work towards the requirements of our students' dream universities.

Other Reminders

Our IB2 parents are reminded to kindly join us in encouraging our students to finalize their college lists. We admit that these decisions are delicate and require time. However, it is important that we send in applications before deadlines so that our students can stand a better chance among the highly competitive pool.

We are always available should you need assistance. Parents are highly encouraged to use the period between **now and mid-semester** to finalize these decisions to enable us apply on time.

15 days away!! Check Managebac for event details on **the CIS Tour** representing 10 great universities.



Chaplaincy Update

Protestant Confirmation Church service

Date Sunday, 8th November, 2015

Time: 4pm

Venue: MPH

SOSHGIC – MUN Conference

VENUE: SOSHGIC (Margaret Nkrumah Hall) Community 6, Tema.

DATE: 22nd-24th October 2015

Time: 8.30 am- 4.30pm

Please note: On Saturday 24th October 2015, parents of the delegates can pick their wards from SOSHGIC (Community 6, Tema) at **4.30pm** or **T.I.S Campus** at **5.30pm**. Thank you

Inter-Colour Competitions

- *Swimming Championships*
- Sat – 17th October, 2015 – 4:00 pm to 5:30pm
- Sunday – 18th October, 2015 – 4:00pm to 5:30pm

- *Athletics Carnival*
- Wed – 21st October, 2015
- Full day event (No Classes)

The poster features a rainbow gradient background. At the top, it displays the logos for Tema International School and the International Baccalaureate (IB) World School. Below the logos, the text 'Inter-colour competitions' is written in a large, bold font. Underneath, two main events are highlighted: 'Swimming Championships' and 'Athletics Carnival'. The 'Swimming Championships' event is scheduled for Saturday, 17 October 2015, from 4:00pm to 5:30pm. The 'Athletics Carnival' event is scheduled for Wednesday, 21 October 2015, as a full-day event with no classes. The poster also includes icons of a swimmer and a runner.



TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Speaker Of The Year Contest by Debate Society

The Debate Society, The School of Sharks
(Hooked on 'DE-BAIT')
presents

The future is public speaking

SPEAKER OF THE YEAR CONTEST

23 Oct., 2015
2:00pm - 4:00pm
MPH

THEME:
The only discipline that lasts is self discipline

CONTACT: Stephanie Eyrarn Diaba (IB1) or Messrs. Michael Dzorkpata and Courage Nobu.

The poster features a central graphic of a red speech bubble containing the contest title. Below the bubble, a photograph shows three students at a podium. The background is dark blue with a white torn-paper effect at the bottom. Logos for Tema International School and the University of Cambridge are visible in the top left and bottom left corners of the poster.

Creative Arts

SARAFINA REHEARSAL IN ACTION.....WATCH OUT!!!!



Watch out for the beautiful stage display of Sarafina at TIS

Sarafina is a young black South African girl struggling for freedom during the apartheid. While she has remained relatively silent in her opposition to the racist government in her country, the movement to make the language of Afrikaans the official language in her school leads her to protest in the streets with her fellow students. Her anti-government views become even more intense when her friends are killed for voicing their views.

LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM ON A CREATIVE INDUSTRY FIELD TRIP.

A visit to the Artist Alliance gallery, the National theatre and the National Symphony Orchestra.



MID SEMESTER EXAMS JAMBOREE; THE FEVER IS HAPPENING RIGHT HERE IN TIS CREATIVE ART.



Doing, creates experiences that translates into knowledge which is applicable to life's encounter. by Elikem Kunutsor

I appreciate your support.

Dr Ken Darvall
Principal