



## PARENTS' BULLETIN: 03 DECEMBER, 2015

### Thought for the Week

Today I will do what others won't, so tomorrow I can do what others can't.

- Jerry Rice

### Important Dates

4/12/15: Farmers' Day (Public holiday)

5/12/15: SAT testing session

9/12/15: Christmas lunch

10/12/15: Board meeting

12/12/15: ACT testing session

13/12/15: Christmas Fiesta

14/12/15: Joint Hostels Christmas Party

15/12/15: 3-Way Conferences (7.30am-1.00pm) Students leave for Christmas break

17/12/15: Semester 1 Reports published

7/1/16: Staff recommences duty; Admin office opens; staff in-school workshop commences

8/1/16: Staff in-school workshop continues (Day 2)

9/1/15: Students return to school

11/1/16: Semester 2 commences

16/1/16: TIS Fun Fair

23/1/16: TIS Health Walk; SAT

24/1/16: Semester 2 Thanksgiving & Student Leaders' Induction service

### ISSAG Swimming and Volleyball Championships

TIS hosted a successful interschool competition last Saturday. The respective boys' and girls' volleyball teams finished second, while TIS won the swimming championships. India Agyeman was the Champion Girl at the championships, while Michael Kumi was the runner-up Champion Boy. Of special note, TIS won five of the six relay events.

I take this opportunity to thank our players and swimmers, our staff who organized and assisted with the running of the championships, our supporters and the two main sponsors: Coca Cola and Ecobank.



## TIS Swimming Team

Shari Halliday-Bryant (c), Stephen Larbi (c), Derek Bonsu (c), David King (c), David Adarkwah, Ryan Apreala, Edem Coffie, Nana-Apau Obeng, Nana Osei Mainoo, Seyilayo Olagbami, Andrea Duckworth, India Agyeman, Adoma Agyare and Michael Kumi.

## Interviews

On Tuesday, 15 December, 3-way performance interviews will be conducted from 7.30am – 1.00pm. This will be another 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.

To book an interview, you need to know your son and/or daughter's teachers for each subject.

On 7 December, parents will be able to book their interview times online from 7.00am. To book online, go to:

[www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)

Enter the code: **C54FN**

Then follow the prompts. Please note that bookings will be made on a 'first in' basis. By not booking early, it will make the selection of interview times more difficult. In the cases when there are no more available interview sessions available, parents may request a meeting with a teacher at a mutually convenient time after 11 January 2016.

Bookings will close on 14 December @ 12.00noon.

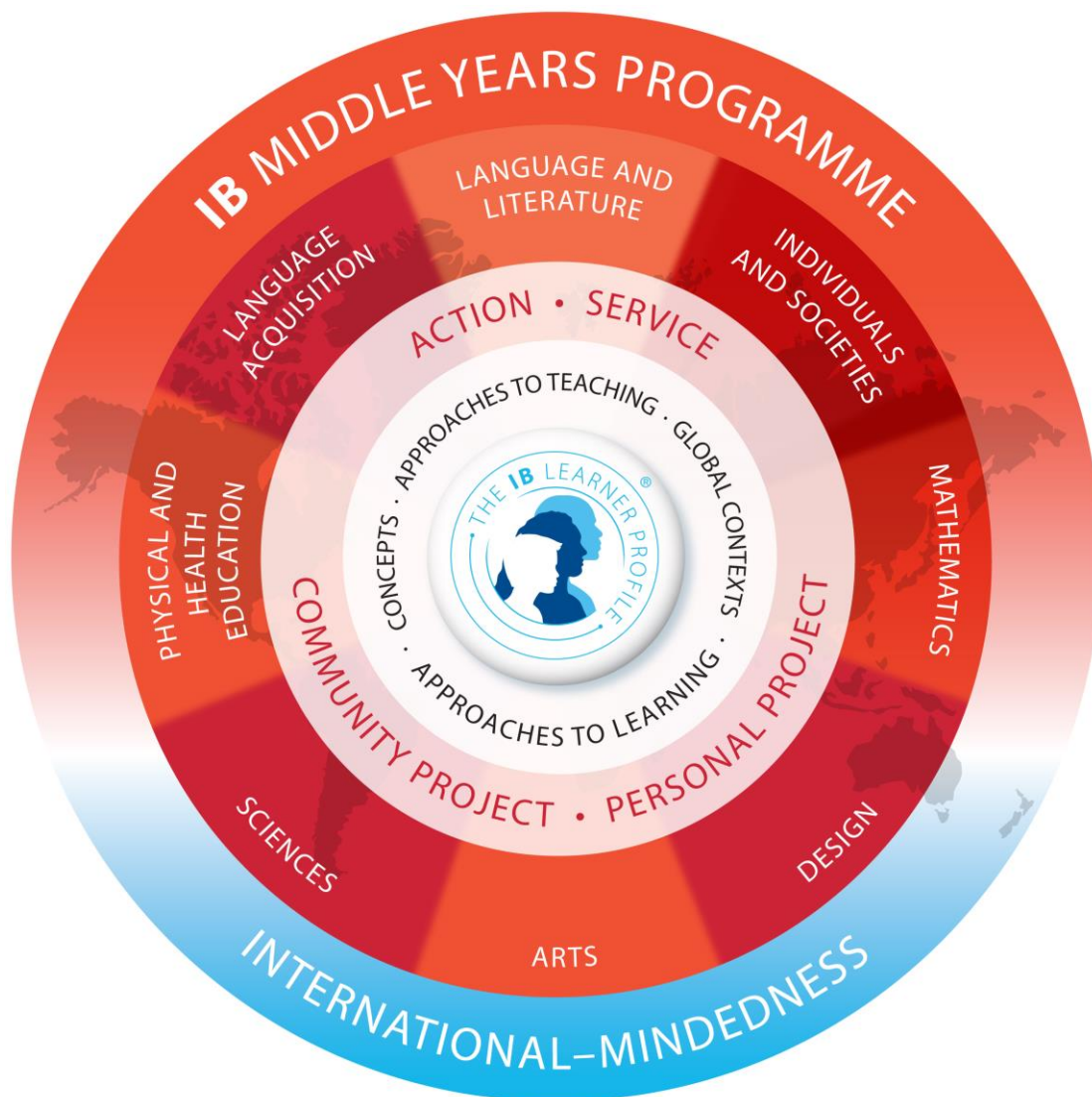
### Please note:

- **These interviews are three-way to include your son/daughter.**
- **Students may depart with their parents for the Christmas vacation after interviews have been completed.**
- **Students, whose parents are not attending interviews on this day, may depart only after 1.00pm.**
- **The exception will be our international students who are required to fly home that morning.**
- **End of Semester 1 reports will be released online on 17 December.**

## MYP

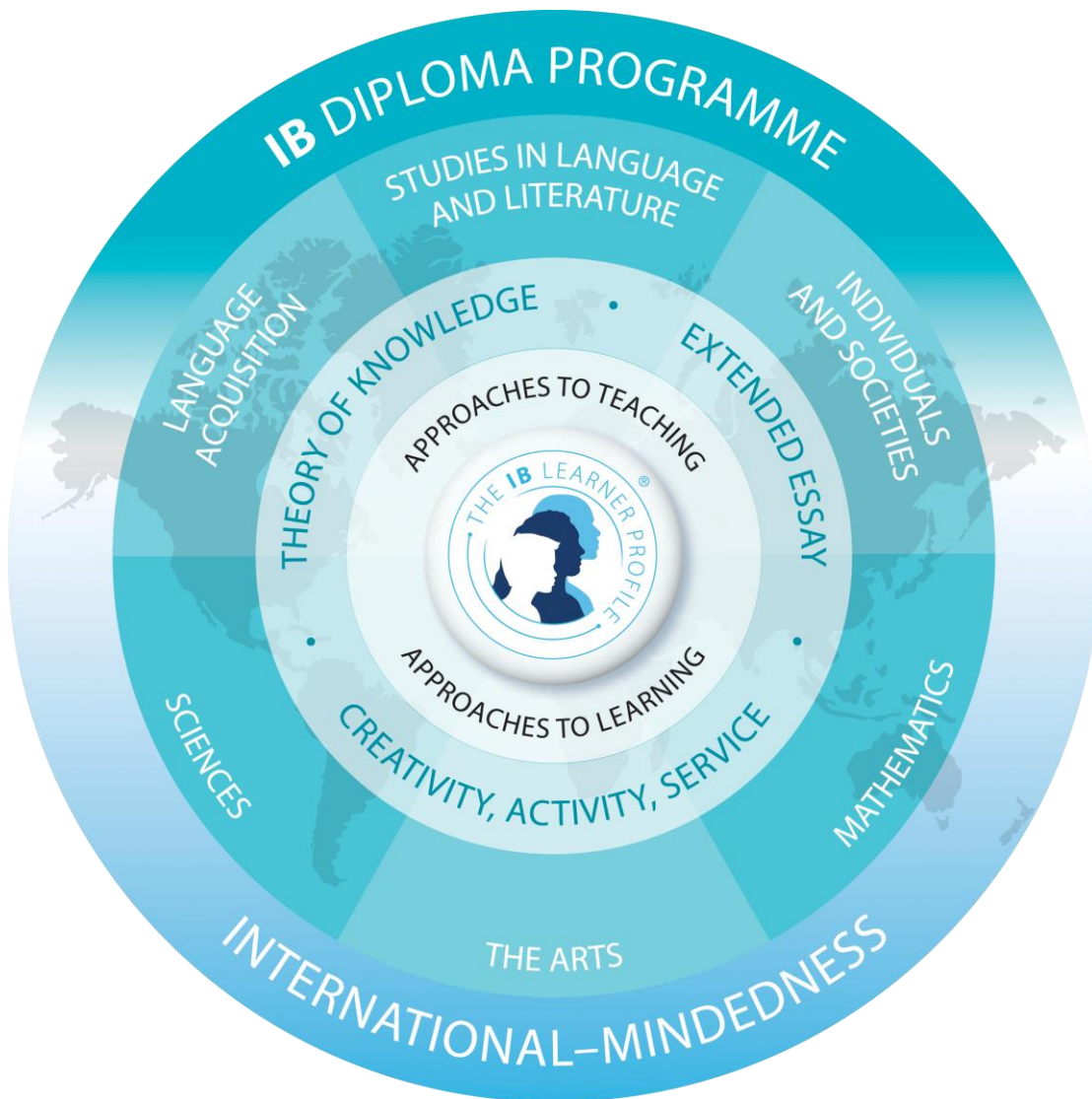
As mentioned in the last Parents' Bulletin, TIS will be seeking candidacy as an IB MYP (Middle Years Programme) School by March 2016 so that MYP can be trialled in the junior secondary classes from August 2016. The purpose is to ensure a smooth transition from the junior secondary to the senior secondary school, where the exit credential is the IB Diploma Programme. Both models (MYP and DP) demonstrate this alignment that ensures a continuum. The value of the IGCSE is the external examination at the end of Grade 10. Now that MYP has external examinations in a style in which DP is expected to move to within 5 years, it is important to ensure continuity in teaching and learning practices. In the short term, IGCSE will be incorporated within MYP.

### *The MYP Model*



## *The DP Model*

Importantly, the introduction of service learning from Grade 7 will highlight the TIS commitment to service. Additionally, the MYP community and personal projects have the potential to be further developed in the Diploma Program as part of their extended essay or CAS project.



## **Student Leadership**

To ensure our Grade 12 students do not have any distractions during the second semester, student leadership elections will take place in January, with the induction service being conducted on 24 January, 2016.



Our G12 leaders have been credible role models and generally managed their responsibilities well. I am proud of them. However, with an additional mock exam in second semester, it will be time to focus on their two personal goals (achieve or exceed their predicated grades; and secure admission to their preferred university, or college) and one shared goal (achieve 100% pass rate).

Since the G12 cohort commenced the Diploma Program, they have been known as the innovators. However, I would also have to highlight their unselfish approach to decisions and solutions. This is extremely gratifying, especially in the apparent selfish world in which we live. As a cohort, it has always been about others and how they can help them, rather than focusing on themselves. They are authentic service learners.

## ASCCUS Updates

IB2 students with deadlines between **now and January 15** are strongly advised to submit applications by **December 10<sup>th</sup>** at the latest. The Counseling department will be away for the Christmas break and will be unable to send any additional documents on behalf of students during that period.

Parents are encouraged to entreat their wards to work with their assigned Counselors to meet all deadlines. Kindly check Managebac frequently for updates and helpful information.

## Test Reminders

Please be reminded that SAT payments for January Test takers were due last Monday. Kindly ensure that you have make payments ASAP for your ward before the week ends.

This Saturday, December SAT takes place. Passports are the **only acceptable IDs** for test takers. All the best to our test takers!

## Hostel Corner

There will be a Hostel clean -up and inspections by appointed teachers on Saturday December 12 and final inspection by the prefects on Tuesday December 15. Both scores will be tallied and winners will be declared. We are anxious to find out which hostel emerges as winner this time around.

The students will have their joint hostel's Christmas Party from 6:00 – 9:00 pm on December 14, 2015. Your children may request for the following; spring rolls, macaroni cheese, grilled or fried chicken pieces, pizza etc, and also gifts or presents and may be chocolates. Please drop them off at the security with your ward's name and they will be informed to collect them . After their party, all students will clean up and do their packing ready for Christmas break on Tuesday December 15. We reminded all students to take home all their belongings to clear space in the Hostels as our school maintenance will work in their rooms if there are repairs to be done and school cleaners to do general cleaning before students come back in Semester 2.



## CAS Updates

Sign up for CAS and Co-curricular activities for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of the 2015/2016 Academic Year will be done online; the link will be sent to you on the next bulletin. Discuss with your wards the various ‘after school’ activities available and which ones will be more suitable. Note that balance is our key word. In today’s world, Universities are looking for much more than academic achievements, and this is why TIS offers a wide range of opportunities for students to develop skills for a life time. Encourage your son or daughter to engage and step out of his or her comfort zone to try something new.

CAS during Christmas break for IB 1 students – I would like to urge all parents to encourage their wards to use the Christmas break as an opportunity to engage with the community, and take initiatives towards meaningful projects. CAS is about reaching out to others and making a difference.

## CAS Reminders

The following are a few reminders on events to take place before the end of the semester, as they have been already mentioned in the December newsletter.

### Christmas Lunch

Comes off on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December, 2015 at the Multi-purpose hall (MPH). It is a special lunch during which students and staff dine together, creating a bonding platform for them to exchange goodwill messages and best wishes as we all look forward to the Christmas festivity and the forthcoming year.

### Christmas Fiesta

This is another beautiful event, slated for 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2015, from 6:30 -8:30pm in which our ‘Talented Inspiring Students’ (TIS) showcase their artistry through solo performances, carol songs, dance, etc., welcoming Christmas in grand style. You are all invited.

### The Comeback Festival

As part of their CAS initiated projects, the IB classes of 2016 & 2017 are putting together this funfair to raise funds in support of two children (profile included in the December newsletter) who are suffering from various hearts diseases, and who require urgent surgery(with average cost of GH¢28,000 each ) to survive. This event is scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.

## Wings of Hope

Wings of Hope, a charity group led by TIS Alumni, Elom Tettey-Tamaklo, has been working extremely well in supporting the New Life Orphanage at Nungua. Unfortunately, the orphanage suffered a disastrous fire outbreak which lasted for about an hour and half, causing a total destruction of the boy’s hostel in the orphanage, and rendering all 33 boys homeless, losing all their belongings. The Wings of Hope charity group is currently working passionately in order to support the orphanage with as many

donations in the shortest time possible. Louisa Awuku-Aboagye, David Quampah and Nubuke Gadzekpo, of TIS, are representatives from the Wings of Hope charity group and are leading a team of IB1s in raising funds to support the orphanage. An appeal is being made to all parents to aid in this worthy cause. The most vital donations needed as of now are clothing, toiletries and footwear. However, any other donations would be appreciated. Parents and guardians are at liberty to bring all donations along with them during the Christmas Fiesta. A stand will be set up to receive all them. Help TIS put a smile of an orphan's face.

I look forward to seeing you at the Christmas Fiesta on 13 December.

Dr Ken Darvall  
Principal



# Gilbert Ramy Carrey

## — A budding writer

By Rebecca Kwei

**A**t the young age of 15, Gilbert Ramy Carrey knows what he wants to do — become a writer; something he has been doing since he was even younger.

This has certainly paid off and Gilbert, at this young age, has already written a movie which is in works and hopefully will come out next year.

The movie titled 'The Slave King' has attracted seasoned actors such as Fred Amugi, Edinam Atatsi, Jose Tolbert, Stella Anima and Christabel Ekkeh.

It tells the story of a man who was captured and enslaved by a cruel king because he (king) wanted more guards to protect him from his people who did not like him. However, the 'slave' did not want to work for the king because he did not see why he should serve someone who had taken away his freedom.

Later, the king took the slave's lover to be one of his maids and planned to marry her. This brought about conflict among the king, 'the slave' and the queen.

According to Gilbert, he wrote the story when he was 11 and it has always been his dream to make a movie out of

it. His new year's resolution, therefore, was to make sure this came to fruition. Wanting him to live his dreams, his mother, Ms Shirley Acquah-Harrison assisted by getting in touch with a screen writer, Divine Jones, who also doubles as the Director of the film.

Speaking to the *Junior Graphic* on his passion for writing, Gilbert said anytime he watched a movie, he would tell his mum what he thought about it or how in his opinion the movie could have ended.

**H**is mum, therefore, encouraged him to put into writing any idea he had and that is what he had been doing since.

He said anything that popped into his mind, he would write it down and then get his brother to draw it for him. When they had a lot of drawings, they began to show them to friends and anyone who wanted to read further had to pay 20 pesewas — an obvious business acumen even as kids.

Gilbert, who was very confident throughout the interview, said he came out with his first cartoon series at the age of eight. He praised his mother for her direction that had enabled him to achieve all that because he said it all started when he accompanied her to the market one day and as they chatted on the way, she tasked him to work on a cartoon piece that had 13 episodes.

To prove to his mum that he could live up to

expectation, he said when he got home, he immediately wrote down any idea that came to him and he continued to do so until he developed the story for the cartoon.

"That first cartoon which has a working title of 'Omega Boys' has a special place in my heart. In fact, I want it to be perfect so I am still working on it," he added. Gilbert indicated that he has a lot of cartoon ideas with various plots which he would be working on.

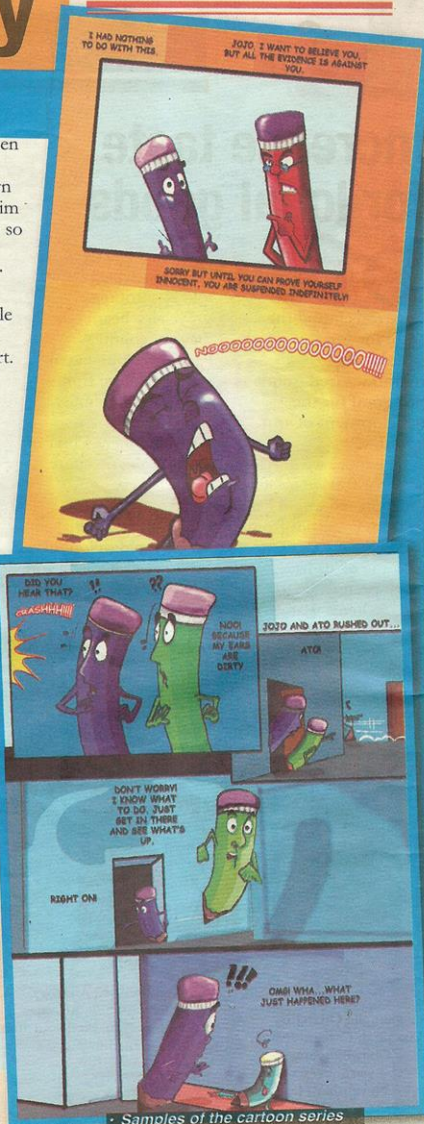
**A**nother cartoon he has created is titled, 'Adventures in Pencilvania' (all the characters here are pencils) which he said was based on some 'crazy' ideas that came to his mind and things he often did with his friends which "I have tweaked a bit and laced with humour to make it fun for young people."

Gilbert said it was important for young people who have a passion for writing to start writing now and not wait until they are older. He added that he did not believe one had to be an adult before one could do something meaningful with his or her life.

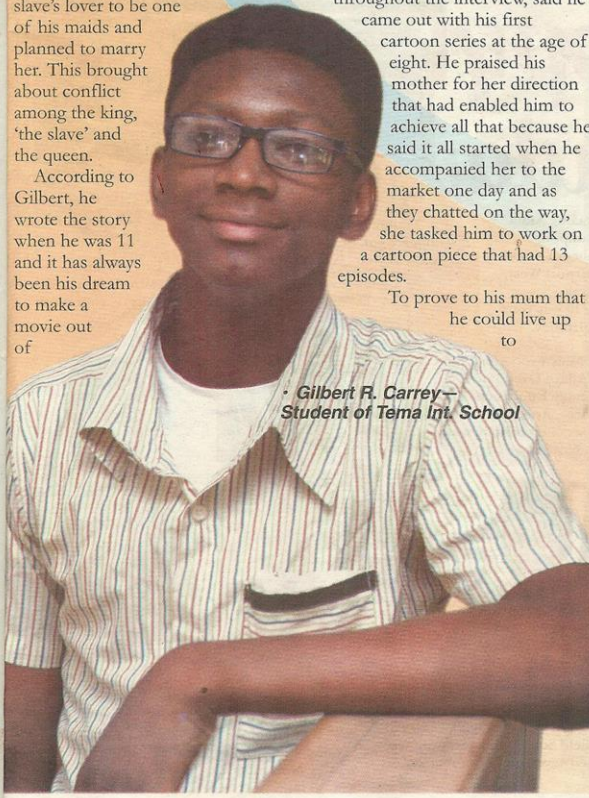
"Your age does not determine your capabilities. If someone tells you you cannot do anything; those words should rather motivate you to do your best to prove the person wrong" he said.

**H**e advised young people not to do anything that they thought others would appreciate but do something they (young people) would like, adding "I will not do anything or have my name on something that I'll not be

I'll tell my story



• Samples of the cartoon series "Adventures in Pencilvania"



• Gilbert R. Carrey — Student of Tema Int. School

proud of".

Asked who he takes inspiration from, he mentioned Akira Toriyama, a Japanese manga and game artist. He said his inspiration for cartoons comes from Toriyama's work, 'Dragon ball z'.

Born to Gilbert Atta Boakyee and Shirley Acquah-Harrison, Gilbert said his parents encouraged him to pursue his passion for writing. A student of Tema International School, Gilbert has a brother, Ishmael Phillip Carrey.

Asked what the future holds for him, Gilbert said, "Writing, I've got so much in me, I can't stop now".











