



## TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



MAY, 2016.

### Crunch Time

The mighty month of May is upon us which means exam time for our Grade 10 and 12 students. The DP exams commence on Monday. Yes, although it is a public holiday in Ghana, it's not the case everywhere else. Although there was an ICT exam on last Tuesday, the main IGCSE exams begin on Tuesday.

We wish all of our exam students well and we pray that they can achieve the best result that reflects their consistent efforts over the past two years. Unfortunately, each student, especially our Grade 12, carries a lot of expectations from family, peers, school and friends, as well as their own. These expectations can be a bigger burden than the actual exams. However, I am confident that the overwhelming support they will receive during this exam period will ensure their focus is on achieving their goals.

### Visiting Saturday

As stated in the special email to parents last Tuesday, a 'Visiting Sunday' is listed on the calendar for this Sunday. Unfortunately, I had overlooked this event, as the previous

Visiting Sunday was only two weeks ago and many parents joined us for the Exam Students' Service on Sunday. Thus, it had not been mentioned in last week's bulletin.

However, as it is scheduled the day before IB exams commence for our G12 students, it has been changed to Saturday, 30 April from 12.30pm-3.30pm. The reason for this change is that there is a high occurrence of students with upset stomachs on the evening or next day following these visits, with the main priority for students being the food brought in. To minimise the risk for our exam students being unwell for the start of their final journey, this event has been moved to Saturday.

I am aware of one international parent who has already arranged to visit on Sunday. As previously stated, international parents may visit when they are in Ghana.

International students have been provided with an option to visit a mall on Saturday during the visiting period on Saturday.

The Karma Geddit Restaurant was scheduled to be open for business during visiting hours on Saturday afternoon. However, it will now open on a later date.

As much as possible, the visit should be kept short to allow students to continue with preparations for exams, Food, if brought in, should be as simple as possible.

***Please note that the only access to the school is via the hostel gate due to road works for the next month.***

I apologise for any inconvenience this change may cause.

### **The Undiscovered Author**

As part of Writing Lab activities, *Unbroken Promises*, a story written by Charity Apreku and Jackie Buba (Grade 7) has been shortlisted in the Undiscovered Authors Book Fair, a programme organised by Write From the Heart Book Club and sponsored by Access Bank Ghana.

Our ladies have met their external editors already and are just about taking the first prize, so kindly check them out at [www.theevent.today](http://www.theevent.today) and please vote for them. Your **VOTE** counts, and we need plenty of them. Alumni, here's a great opportunity to spread the message and collect the votes for Jackie and Charity.

We will also need your support during the Book Fair and Fun Bazaar on 7 May at Association International School to carry the first prize home.

### **Appreciation**

- Congratulations to the students' Entertainment Committee, staff and parents who assisted with last Saturday's fun fair, Come Back. They are to be commended for ensuring it happened, as two previous attempts failed. All students I spoke to over the weekend had fun and enjoyed the festival.
- A big thank you to those parents and friends who joined us at the Exam Candidates' Service last Sunday.

### **MYP: Global Contexts**

Teaching and learning in the MYP involves understanding of both key and related concepts within a global context. Learning that occurs outside of a context is often shallow and short term in character. The six learning contexts, used

by all IB world schools, are designed to foster an awareness of the individual's role in, and engagement within, an increasingly interconnected and complex global society.

#### *Identities and Relationships*

Students will explore identity; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities and cultures; what it means to be human.

#### *Orientation in Space and Time*

Students will explore personal histories; homes and journeys; turning points in humankind; discoveries; explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationships between, and the interconnectedness of, individuals and civilizations, from personal, local and global perspectives.

#### *Personal and Cultural Expression*

Students will explore the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.

#### *Scientific and Technical Innovation*

Students will explore the natural world and its laws; the interaction between people and the natural world; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on communities and environments; the impact of environments on human activity; how humans adapt environments to their needs.

#### *Globalization and Sustainability*

Students will explore the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the relationship between local and global processes; how local experiences mediate the global; the opportunities and tensions provided by world-interconnectedness; the impact of decision-making on humankind and the environment.

#### *Fairness and Development*

Students will explore rights and responsibilities; the relationship between communities; sharing finite resources

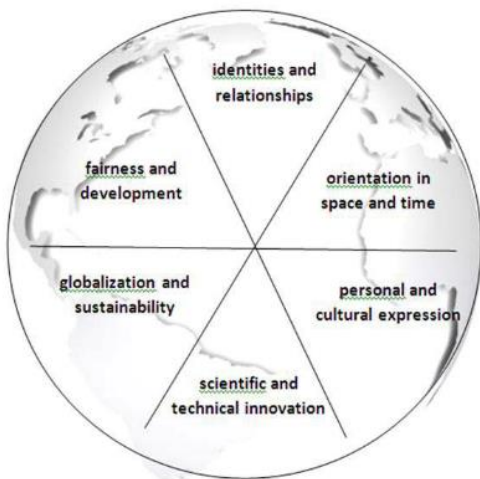
with other people and with other living things; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution.

When teachers select a global context for learning, they are answering the following questions:

- Why are we engaged in this inquiry?
- Why are these concepts important?
- Why is it important for me to understand?
- Why do people care about this area of learning?

The six MYP global contexts (below) inspire explorations of our common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet. They invite students to reflect on local, national and global communities in addition to the real-life issues and concerns of 11 to 16 year old students. For each MYP unit of inquiry, teachers should identify one global context that establishes a focus for meaningful teaching and learning in a programme of international education. Over the course of their study, students will encounter all six global contexts. These contexts provide the common point of entry for inquiries into what it means to be internationally minded, framing a curriculum that promotes multilingualism, intercultural understanding and global engagement.

In the final year of the programme, the global contexts are assessed through the Personal Project which is completed by students in Grade 10



## CAS UPDATES



### TIS Celebrates Earth Day 2016!

We, the SRC, believe in initiative. We believe in exploring exciting opportunities that we can introduce to the school. *“Earth Day was one of those initiatives. Planting the trees in and out of school campus gave me hope for the future - that there is still a chance to preserve our environment. I especially loved this experience and can't wait for more innovative ideas from 'The Diplomats'”* - **Ryan Apreala - Co-opted Executive**

*“Earth Day was one of my best experiences ever. It was amazing to watch all the various grades in the school give back to our beloved mother earth by planting their very own trees. Not to mention the superb taste of the freshly squeezed fruit juice along with fresh fruit cuts available for sale. All the colourful posters and interesting videos displayed on the day really showed our earth vibe and how much we appreciate our sweet earth. After all, **Earth** without **art** is just eh”* - **Salim Roland - S.R.C PRO**





## IB Class of 2016 farewell trip -

It's that time of the year when our School Founder, Mrs. Comfort Adjavon looks forward to giving a very special treat to the graduating Class. The trip is an opportunity for the Class to bond, reflect on their experiences throughout their journey in TIS, celebrate one another and finally relax after their hectic exams before preparing for their Graduation.



From the 21 to 23 May, the Class will embark on a trip to Elmina and Cape Coast. They

will visit the **Cape Coast Castle, Kakum National Park** and will engage in a number of unforgettable experiences. A consent letter will be sent to all parents of the IB class of 2016.



**TIS Alumni Association Office and Wall of Honor Inauguration** - It's not always flawless during this life's journey called education, especially for those with the daring heart to be formal providers. But it's satisfying when efforts transcend all barriers and lead to meaningful results. **28 May 2016 marks TIS' 10<sup>th</sup> graduation class.**

It's been 10 years of making an impact on the lives of future generations. A meaningful milestone marking our dedication and commitment to developing rounded individuals who can make relevant changes within

**GO INTO THE  
WORLD AND DO  
WELL. BUT MORE  
IMPORTANTLY, GO  
INTO THE WORLD  
AND DO GOOD.**

(MORRIS MYSERS JULY)

every sphere of life. As part of the celebration of 10 years of innovative education, and as a way of ensuring that there is a continuous relationship between graduates and the school, an alumni office has

been created and will be commissioned on the day of graduation.

In addition, the long-awaited alumni wall designed to recognize the outstanding contributions of former students of Tema International School and also inspire and offer role models for its current students will be unveiled. In this 10 years, TIS has graduated hundreds of students who have entered professions and careers in a wide variety of fields including the areas of business, medicine, science, education, public service, entertainment, etc, and even though in some places 10 years is a destination, it is only a stepping stone to first class education in TIS.

## We call on all our cherished alumni

from far and near to join us on this date (28 May, 2016) to start a journey that seeks to forge an unbreakable bond between a mother and her children.



**Leavers Dinner** – Some call it the last supper, others the show off night. In TIS we wait with great expectation to the last night with our senior students. The IB 1s are planning an unforgettable show in honour of a batch we will never forget. Delicious food, unique décor, a variety of performances & informal awards, all to celebrate The Innovators. Be there to witness the grand entrance of our almost alumni at the

TIS Gala Leavers Dinner night, 6pm on 27 May, 2016.

**TIS 10<sup>th</sup> Graduation Ceremony – 28 May – 9:30 am MPH.** Every year we look forward to graduation day. Join us to celebrate The IB Class of 2016 – The Innovators. A detailed programme will be included in a forthcoming bulletin.

### **T.I.S Magazine Committee**



**The TIS Magazine 2016 editorial Board Visited Buck Press** to brainstorm on ideas about their concept and

design possibilities.

*“The “papery” experience was a fun and exciting one which made me learn about the printing process and how amazing it is. I got to learn and feel the different types of papers and I can now say “art matte 130 paper” is quite harder than regular paper. We had an informative and interactive tour of Buck press with their production team who explained the printing process to us in an interesting manner. While we toured, a lot of learning took place. I never knew that the printing process was not a piece of cake but needs a lot of focus and accuracy to get the job done. After the visit, the 2016 Editorial Board is confident that we will produce a very creative and interactive edition.”*

**Michele Abebrese – Sponsorship Team**

**The Come Back Festival -** We would like, on behalf of the Entertainment Committee of TIS, to thank you profoundly for contributing to the reality and success of **The Come Back Festival** held last Saturday.



Your presence, donations and the great support given

by each and every one were very encouraging, and inspiring. Our heartfelt gratitude to parents who gave us logistic and financial support. We are very grateful.

**Sharon Ashun (Head Entertainment Prefect) -** *Being the head planner for The Comeback Festival has been an amazing experience. I worked hand in hand with the IB1's and the entertainment committee to produce a successful event. Students had the opportunity to showcase their talents on stage; and guess what? **Manifest** performed at TIS!!!!*

*One of Ghana's top artistes! Students were hyped for the event. My grade mates were very supportive following a shout out to all IB 1s. The TIS students made the event just awesome. A big thank you to all teachers who supported us. A very special thank you to our patron Mr. Dzokpata, and our dear parents.*



**Felix Gray (Deputy Entertainment Prefect) –** *“Wow! Those are the only words that came out from my mouth after*

*such an event. After all the sleepless nights we finally pulled it off. To lead the team, it required patience and perseverance which also aided me in working hand in hand with the entertainment committee and the IB1's as well. The various artistes together with the performers made the event great!”*



**Aaron Osebre** - *Running Up and down through TIS... that was the last days before the event. I learnt the importance of planning and working together with my mates and the committee. It was a wonderful experience and I would like to do it all over again, especially after learning some important lessons.*



**CAS Experiences Summer opportunity for Grade 10 & IB students.**

**Community Service/Volunteer Opportunity During summer with Heritage Academy**

<http://www.schoerkefoundation.org/ee/index.php/about>



[t-us](#)

**Looking for a summer internship?  
Interested in a community service project?**

**Passionate about education? Passionate about a particular topic so much so that you want to teach others?**

This 2 week program gives you the opportunity to participate in a community service project and gain hands on teaching experience, all while connecting with other volunteers from around the world including China, the U.S., and Europe.

In the mornings you will teach classes in reading and any subject of your choice, in the afternoons you will participate in a school community service project.

The weekly cost of 100 USD includes accommodation, transportation to and from school and community service sites, and two weekend excursions to the beach, Cape Coast & Elmina castles, and Kakum National Park.

**Dates: July 31<sup>st</sup> - August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

Please contact Clara Burgess ([cburgess@tis.edu.gh](mailto:cburgess@tis.edu.gh)) if you are interested in participating in this trip. RSVP by Monday, May 16, 2016.



**Donate to a good cause:** If you would like to donate cash or kind to the various projects of our students, kindly contact Mrs. King for more details. [surama.king@tis.edu.gh](mailto:surama.king@tis.edu.gh)



**Parents Volunteer:** Parents who would like to volunteer to chaperone students, teach a class after school or be a Parent Patron

for our Colour-Group teams should kindly contact Mrs. King for details and registration.

[surama.king@tis.edu.gh](mailto:surama.king@tis.edu.gh) or 0244615255

## THE MAKING OF *ALWAYS AND FOREVER*



In the making of *Always and Forever*, a story by Fafa Apreku and Jacqueline Buba, the two have emerged with such vitality to tell a story; one that is insightful, reflective, and evocative. Taking inspiration from Robert Frost's 'The Road Not Taken' in which the persona draws our attention to an important aspect of life, making (right) choices, the two remind us of another human experience – friendship and love, which is portrayed through the characters, Fafa and Kekeli.

Through an epistolary form, one reminiscent of Mariama Ba's *So Long a Letter*, Fafa writes to her friend, Kekeli and narrates the experiences and moments they have shared. In perfect sync with Helen Keller's concept of friendship, "I would rather walk with a friend in the dark, than alone in the light," we are given a realistic overview of what friendship entails: good times and bad times, presence and absence; and hope and despair.

Through a flashback, we see the resplendent moments in friendship symbolized by Fafa and Kekeli enthusiastically searching for shells and chasing tiny crabs. Nonetheless, they instill the idea that life is not perpetually rosy. The metaphor of murder highlights

the despondency of friendship as Fafa tells Kekeli, "But you swore never to kill, did you not? You did not kill physically, yet you killed us. You killed our resiliency ... you killed several times over."

This is suggestive of the changing scenes of life: the disintegration of the bond that friends and lovers share, and sometimes (or most of the time) the irreparable consequences of disappointment. This is real and the two achieve their purpose of not just writing and recollecting a utopian world of tranquility, but indeed demonstrating realism and dualism – phenomena we can relate with.

Regardless of such pessimistic tendencies of friendship and love, Fafa suggests to Kekeli that their fluctuating experience is synonymous to her growth and maturity. She says, "It's made me realize the truth of life, the truth of love." They suggest that love is "inexplicable and irrevocable." If this is true and we agree with Shakespeare that "Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks/ But bears it out even to the edge of doom," then *Always and Forever*.

By Jeremiah Essuman/Ekua Ampah  
(TIS Writing Lab)

## ASCCUS Updates

### Quick Reminders

**This Friday: 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 @ 11am**

University of Aberdeen @ 1:45pm

- Kingston University London (UK)
- University of Stirling (UK)

**SAT May** is scheduled to take place on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2016**.

Students taking the exam are reminded that the **valid unexpired original passport** is the only acceptable

form of identification as per strict College Board directives.

## EU Business School

Here's another option for students hoping to pursue a degree in Business.

A few highlights on the European University:

- Have programs in business, communication and PR, digital media management, sports management.
- Main focus is business or arts related to business
- Students can choose to study in **Spain (\$20,000) Munich (\$35,000) or Switzerland (\$55,000)**
- The same programs are offered on all campuses
- EU offers a foundation year for students with weak entry grades.
- Students graduating from the Munich campus can get an 18 month working visa after.
- Students can spend three years in the program, and can do two semesters on their U.S. campuses (in New York, Boston, or California)
- Good job opportunities for graduates
- As a small private institution, they do a lot of practical and hands on work. Not more than eight hundred (800) students per campus.
- All courses are taught in English; students have the opportunity to study other languages.

## Creative Arts Updates

# WHY STUDY CREATIVE ARTS

*The Creative Arts is second nature to the life of any individual as everything we do goes through a process of finding, engagement and expression. A child is borne into a world (stage) and engages with the world in finding the self (identity) in becoming an individual.*

*During this process of finding and discovering, one engages with a number of encounters that happen in society and with people. These encounters are creative encounters and its expression is the art.*

## Microscope on Music



Why study a

Mind  
Under  
Serenity, to  
Impact our students  
Creatively

Every student is musically inclined which is tracked back to the very first note sung by most children when they transition from one world to the other. Imagine being in a room and experiencing the birth of 10 children at the same time. It is this orchestration that is developed in children when they study music; how to further explore through voice and instruments, what has naturally been given at birth.

According to Caroline Phillips, early musical training helps develop brain areas involved in language and reasoning. It is thought that brain development continues for many years after birth. Recent studies have clearly indicated that musical training physically develops the part of the left side of the [brain](#) known to be involved with processing language, and can actually wire the brain's circuits in specific ways. Linking familiar songs to new information can also help imprint information on young [minds](#).

There is also a causal link between [music and spatial intelligence](#) (the ability to perceive the world



accurately and to form mental pictures of things). This kind of intelligence, by which one can visualize various elements that should go together, is critical to the sort of thinking necessary for everything from solving advanced mathematics problems to being able to pack a book-bag with everything that will be needed for the day.

Students of the arts (music) learn to think creatively and to solve problems by imagining various solutions, rejecting outdated rules and assumptions. Questions about the arts (music) do not have only one right answer.

Recent studies show that students who study the arts (music) are more successful on [standardized tests](#) such as the SAT. They also achieve higher grades in high school.

A study of the arts (music) provides children with an internal glimpse of other cultures and teaches them to be empathetic towards the people of these cultures. This development of compassion and empathy, as opposed to development of greed and a “me first” attitude, provides a bridge across cultural chasms that leads to respect of other races at an early age.

Students of music learn craftsmanship as they study how details are put together painstakingly and what constitutes good, as opposed to mediocre, work.

In music, a mistake is a mistake; the instrument is in tune or not, the notes are well played or not, the entrance is made or not. It is only by much hard work that a successful performance is possible. Through music study, students learn the value of sustained effort to achieve excellence and the concrete rewards of hard work.

Music study enhances teamwork skills and discipline.

Music provides children with a means of self-expression.

Music study develops skills that are necessary in the workplace. It focuses on “doing,” as opposed to observing, and teaches students how to perform, literally, anywhere in the world. Employers are

looking for multi-dimensional workers with the sort of flexible and supple intellects that music education helps to create.

Musical performance teaches young people to conquer fear and to take risks. A little anxiety is a good thing, and something that will occur often in life. Dealing with it early and often makes it less of a problem later.



*Source: Music Education Resources.*

## IBDP update

This week has been a whirlwind for the DP cohort with the Grade 12's giving finishing touches to their revision, teachers having special classes to sum the curriculum and students getting in to a group to help one another. TIS was the hotspot of academic activity.

A humble request to all the readers to keep the candidates of TIS ( IGCSE and IBDP)in your prayers for a successful examination session.

**Grade 11 students had a TOK interaction with the students of Sol C. Johnson High School, Savannah, United States. They had the chance to learn about each other's tastes in wide variety of areas like food, music, movies and the culminated with an understanding to do more collaborative projects and help each other in their academics.**

Grade 11 final examinations start from May 23, 2016 and will end on June 3, 2016. Timetable and syllabus focus for the same will be shared over the weekend. The last week of this year, Grade 11 will be focusing

on their Group 4 projects, initiating their internal assessments and giving shape to their extended essays.

### Meet our Alumni of the week!



**NAME:** Gerald Nana Kusi

**Year Group:** IB Class of 2007 (*Pioneer Student*)

**Hostel/Colour Group:** Francis/Blue Cedar

**Roles played at TIS:** (1<sup>st</sup>) Head Boy

### University/ies Attended:

-University of Ghana, Legon – Economics Major (2007-2010)

-The University of Law, London – Bachelor of Laws, LL.B (2011-2013)

-The University of Law, London – Post Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice (2012-2013)

-Ghana Law School, Makola – Qualifying Certificate of the General Legal Council (Barrister & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Ghana)

**Currently:** Working with Barclays Bank in legal & compliance.

**Word of Advice:** Let your future self, thank you for the sacrifices you are making now.

### Humanities Dept. Update

A great opportunity for your chil/ren to win a scholarship at the New European College is to enter the bachelor scholarship business case challenge 2016.

Kindly visit:

<http://www.new-european-college.com/scholarships>

### Toptal STEM scholarships for Women

Totptal.com will award 12 scholarships to aspiring female computer scientists, developers and software engineers. Every winner will receive \$5,000 and a year of weekly one-on-one mentoring by a Toptal senior developer.

For more information and to apply, please visit: <https://www.toptal.com/scholarships>.

*The deadline to apply is the 15th of each month. The final deadline is October 14, 2016*

### Birthdays

Finally, TIS would like to wish our dear students, staff, parents and guardians whose birthdays fall in the month of May, Happy Birthday!

### Feedback

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We welcome your comments and suggestions on how to make this newsletter more relevant to you. Do not hesitate to contact us via [info@tis.edu.gh](mailto:info@tis.edu.gh) if you have any queries or concerns.

Warm Regards,  
Dr. Ken Darvall  
Principal

# 10 Reasons



Middle Years Programme

why the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) encourages you to become a creative, critical and reflective learner

1



## Become a life-long learner

Learn 'how to learn' using communication, research, self-management, collaboration and critical thinking skills.

2



## Learn by doing and experiencing

Through the MYP community project you learn to service the community and connect what you learn in the classroom to "real life".

3



## The MYP encourages critical thinking

It teaches you to analyse and evaluate issues, generate novel ideas and consider new perspectives.

5



## Learn for understanding

Not just to memorize facts or topics and prepare for exams.

4



## Explore global challenges

The MYP helps you increase your understanding of the world by exploring globally significant ideas and issues.

6



## Train yourself to:

- organize and plan your work
- meet deadlines
- concentrate
- bounce back
- persist
- think positively.

7



## Subjects are not taught in isolation

You are encouraged to make connections between subjects.

10



## It encourages international-mindedness

The MYP helps you critically appreciate your own culture and personal history, as well as the values and traditions of others.

9



## It prepares you for future education

Prepare yourself for the IB Diploma Programme or IB Career-related Certificate delivered by IB World Schools globally.

8



## It empowers you to develop your talents

Feel empowered to prove what you know and earn the MYP certificate or MYP course results.



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Bachillerato Internacional

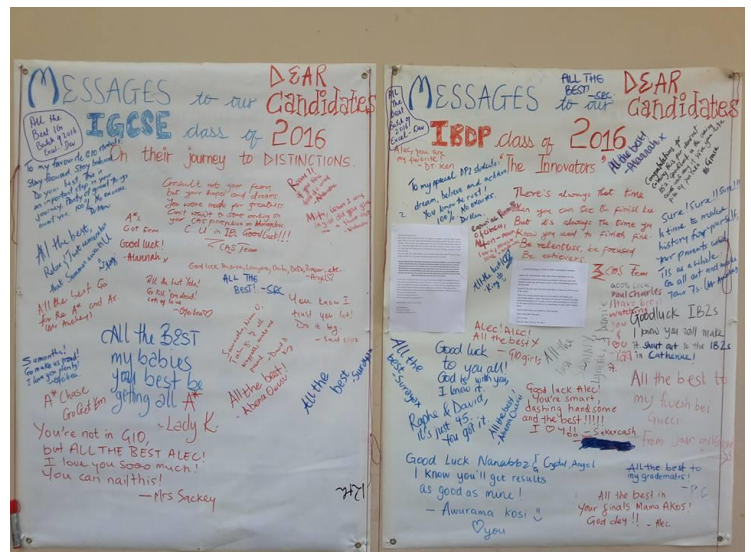
Based on IB research - [www.ibo.org/research](http://www.ibo.org/research)

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## NXPLOER takes off at TIS











A promotional poster for the 'Battle of the Stories' competition. At the top left, a red 3D button with a white arrow and the word 'VOTE' is shown. To its right, a yellow banner contains the text '@ bots.theevent.today' with a hand cursor icon pointing at it. Below this, the names 'CHARITY APREKU AND JACKIE BUBA' are written in large, bold, green capital letters. To the right of the names, a vertical line separates them from the text 'Tema International School'. The central image shows two young girls with dark skin and braided hair, wearing green polo shirts. They are smiling and holding a long, yellow banner that features the school's crest and the text 'APREKU & BUBA'. At the bottom, the text 'Inter Schools Short Stories Competition' is written in white, followed by 'BATTLE OF THE STORIES' in large, bold, white capital letters.

**VOTE**

@ bots.theevent.today

**CHARITY APREKU  
AND JACKIE BUBA**

Tema International  
School

Inter Schools Short Stories Competition  
**BATTLE OF THE STORIES**



Our candidates Church Service









## Tree planting exercise at ASHMA on Earth Day 2016









## Fun times at the TIS Ball





Picture of the week...

