



TIS BULLETIN: 22 APRIL, 2016

Thought for the Week

Success is never owned, it's only rented and the rent is due every day.

- Rory Vaden

Important Dates

22/4/16: Entries close for May TIS Admission Exams

23/4/16: TIS Fun Fair: Comeback Festival (2.00-8.00pm)

24/4/16: Exam Candidates' Service (3.00pm)

29/4/16: Spelling & English Quiz (7.00pm)

Important Action to be Taken By Parents

- **Today:** Complete registration for admission to TIS in 2016/2017 for May TIS Admission Exams (new enrolments, if applicable)
- **30 April:** Final payment for French Study Tour

Sarafina DVD

As mentioned in last week's Bulletin, last year's Annual School play (Sarafina) DVD is available. All interested parents should please pre-order their DVD's with Bijoux at Bijoux.h@tis.edu.gh

The price for a DVD is GHC50 and is great value as you receive two discs: the Friday night performance; and the Saturday night performance.

If you attended Sarafina, you will enjoy both incredible performances as much as you did back in November. If you were unable to attend, then I recommend you email Bijoux because what you will view is the stunning talent of our TIS students.

Best advice: order several copies as family members will want their own copies once they see it.

Thank you once again, Team Sarafina, for such a memorable performance and experience. You were all brilliant.

Busy Weekend

It's a busy weekend at TIS, as usual. On Saturday afternoon is the TIS Fun Fair (2.00-8.00pm) and a special Exam Candidates' Service will commence at 3.00pm on Sunday. Like all events, parents are most welcome to attend.

MYP: The IB Middle Years Programme

The Middle Years Programme (MYP) is a coherent and comprehensive curriculum framework that provides academic challenge and develops life skills for students between the ages of 11 and 16, our



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junior secondary grades 7-10. As part of the IB's continuum of international education, the MYP serves as an excellent preparation for the Diploma Programme (DP).

The MYP, originally developed by the International Schools Association, is a purpose-built programme that is taught and implemented world-wide. It offers students opportunities to develop their potential, to explore their own learning preferences, to take appropriate risks, and to reflect on and develop a strong sense of personal identity.

The MYP offers an approach to teaching and learning which empowers students aged 11-16 to develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes and personal qualities they need to participate effectively in life in the twenty-first century. The concept of balance is fundamental to the programme in a number of ways. The programme provides learning in a broad base of disciplines to ensure that students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to prepare for the future.

The course objectives include skills and processes, as well as concepts. The aim is to ensure that students are not only knowledgeable about the subject areas studied, but also develop a genuine understanding of principles and an ability to apply these in unfamiliar contexts, in preparation for further learning. The MYP promotes the principle of concurrent learning, whereby students study a balanced curriculum each year.

As students mature and develop thinking skills, they explore the disciplines with increasing depth and realise how they are linked to each other and to global issues. In G9 and G10, subjects are studied to a deeper level than previously, in preparation for the Diploma Programme offered in the final two years. A variety of teaching and learning methodologies are used to promote a climate in which students discover how they learn best in different contexts.

The development of the whole child is emphasised: affective, cognitive, creative and physical. Successful implementation of the programme at TIS will be underpinned by curriculum development, the provision of the requisite resources and teacher in-service training.

The programme also encourages a balance between formative and summative assessment, using a range of activities within units to allow students to use and demonstrate a full range of skills. Assessment strategies employed by TIS teachers will include teacher-led assessment, group and/or peer evaluation, student portfolios, orals and student self-assessment, in addition to formal testing and examinations.

The IB MYP Philosophy

From its beginning, the development of the MYP has been guided by three principles that have special currency for middle years' learners, and are inspired by the IB mission.

These three guiding principles, known as the three fundamental concepts, provided a strong foundation on which to build the programme. Holistic learning, communication and intercultural awareness are all part of the IB learner profile, seen especially in the attributes of 'balanced', 'communicators' and 'open-minded'.

Holistic Learning

The MYP seeks to increase a student's awareness and understanding of both the separate identities of the various disciplines and their interrelatedness. There are six learning contexts in the MYP for developing links between the disciplines so that students will learn to see knowledge as an interrelated

whole. Through their application, students realise that most real world problems require insights gained from a variety of disciplines, develop the skills of inquiry and understand the similarities and differences between different approaches to human knowledge.

Communication

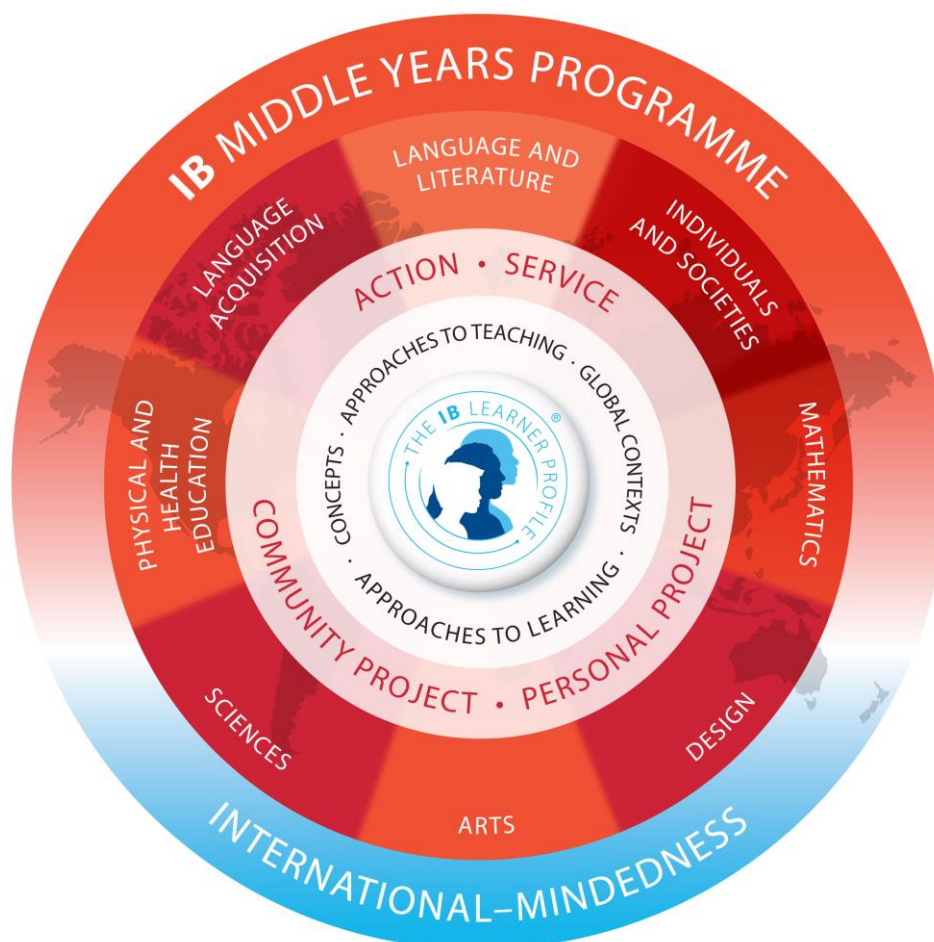
The MYP stresses the central importance of communication, verbal and non-verbal as a vehicle to realise the aims of the programme. Effective written and oral expression enables the young person both to fit successfully into society by communicating with others and to build his or her own personality through structural thinking. Students are required to develop at least two languages within the MYP, normally their first language and a second language.

Intercultural Awareness

The concept of intercultural awareness is concerned with developing students' attitudes, knowledge and skills as they learn about their own and others' social and national cultures. It not only fosters tolerance and respect, but also leads to empathy and understanding.

Structure of MYP

The MYP is an innovative concept-driven curriculum which weaves together subject disciplines, cross-curricular themes and an emphasis on citizenship and personal development. It is shown in the model below:



The student, whose development is the focus of the MYP, naturally appears at the centre of the curriculum model. Surrounding the learner, and embedded within and visible across the academic subjects, are the global contexts, approaches to learning and teaching, and the over-arching and subject-specific key and related concepts which allow students to develop the conceptual understanding they will retain in the future.

The student is encouraged to question and critically evaluate information, to seek out and explore the links between subjects and to develop an awareness of his/her place in the world in which he/she lives. The global contexts provide powerful opportunities to engage in the study of issues that affect students today. Using a common language, teachers organise the curriculum through the six contexts. The subject groups include: Language and Literature, Language Acquisition; Individuals and Societies; Sciences; Mathematics; Design; Arts; and Physical and Health Education. These subject groups provide a broad and balanced foundation of knowledge in subject disciplines and all are of equal importance. The MYP culminates in the Personal Project for students in the final year of MYP.

TIS has sought approval from IB to trial MYP as a candidate school from 2016/2017. It will be fully implemented in Grades 7 and 8, while practices will be adopted across the junior secondary school. In 2020, MYP e-Assessments will replace the IGCSE as the formal examination system for Grade 10.

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 Art





Why study ART???

The common responses when it comes to why study Art relate to creative thinking, broadening the mind and feeding the soul. Art enhances fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, decision making skills, inventiveness, problem solving skills, cultural awareness, lateral thinking, complex analysis and critical thinking skills,. In any career choice, those who can arrange, present and display material in a way that is aesthetically pleasing have an advantage.

James Catterall, leading professor and Chair of the Faculty at the UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, has studied 12,000 students over twelve years. His research demonstrates that involvement in the arts (both Visual Art and Performing Art) – especially for students from a low-income background – is associated with higher levels of attainment in both high school and university. Catterall also notes that studying the arts can have other positive benefits such as greater involvement in community service.

Sourced from an article by Amiria Robinson.

ASCCUS Updates

College Visits

Next Tuesday: 26th April, 2016

European University (EU) Business School

Next Friday: 29 April, 2016 @ 11am

University of Aberdeen

Next Friday: 29th April, 2016 @ 1:45pm

- Kingston University London
- University of Stirling.

Event Recap:

ALU Reimagine University

Last Saturday, our students attended the ALU Reimagine University event at the Holiday Inn, Accra. They participated in a ‘discovery’ session and learnt to build the tallest tower out of different materials (including marshmallows). Students reflected on the experience; this is what the ALU learning process is all about: *discovery, peer learning, reflection and team work*.

ALU is addressing education and the African continent in a truly unique and productive way.

Our trip to ACM

With 15 students currently enrolled, Accra College of Medicine is a private medical school providing quality education for students.



ACM has learning tools that complement student learning: An e-library, dry and wet labs, virtual labs and an anatomage table (the first of its kind in West Africa) that allows students to virtually dissect the human body, etc.

Students also enroll in Ghanaian language, Sign language and critical thinking classes in addition to their unique community service projects.

ACM is passionate about raising well rounded medical doctors. The school is open to all parents and students who wish to visit.

Event Reminders:

Parents are invited to the following events to be held at the US Embassy.

Date: Tuesday, April 26

Time: 2pm

Focus: Waitlist Limbo: For students who have been waitlisted by US schools

Date: Thursday, April 28

Time: 2pm

Focus: Accepted Students' Session: For students who been admitted and have received or about to receive their I-20's, we will take them through the steps to apply for student visas

Date: Friday, April 29

Time: 10am

Focus: Truman State University Information Session: For students who are about to apply to U.S. schools.

Session Updates

Today, our IB1 students will engage in a college essay workshop. At the end of the workshop, our applicants will learn to:

- Choose suitable topics
- Craft compelling college essay openings
- Avoid college essay traps (e.g. telling cliché stories, etc.)
- Write excellent college essays

CAS UPDATES:



Earth Day initiative - Plant a tree & save energy for 2 hours –

22nd April is world Earth Day and the S.R.C has initiated a tree planting project @ the **ASHMA** (Ashaiman Munical Assembly) garden and on school campus to demonstrate how we can take positive action

towards our environment. Natural fruit juice would be sold on campus and there will be power cut for one hour to conserve energy. This is another great initiative by SRC! TIS students are indeed innovative and **CARING**. #positivechange Let's all do our bit to make the world a better place.





Candidate Service IB and IG – Let's come together this Sunday at the candidate service, as we celebrate with thanksgiving our dearest IBDP and IGCSE candidates as they make conclusive preparations towards their final examinations. It is our collective prayer that an excellent 100% result will be achieved.

Cure Aid Ghana project – Cure Aid Ghana is putting TIS on the map as they register for **Anzisha Prize** in South Africa. Young entrepreneurs across Africa will compete towards an entrepreneurship award fund from \$25,000 to \$2.500. Kindly support the group by liking their Facebook page, @CureAidGhana. They aim to create awareness about the importance of Hand Washing and to also solidify their campaign on social media, which will be monitored by the Anziha Prize committee.

Cure Aid, washing hands, saving lives!

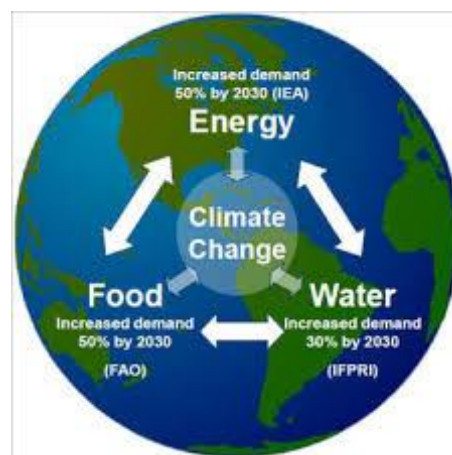


English competition with poster – The first ever Inter- Colour English competition dubbed Word Plus is coming off on the 29 April. Check out the poster and be at the MPH @7PM.



Nxplorer launched at TIS Ghana – The Nxplorers program which aims at empowering young people to bring about positive change has

begun in TIS. The program has been introduced to the Junior Community Service Club and the members are very enthusiastic about the possibilities to explore the issues concerning water, food and energy. The introduction is aimed at equipping the club with fundamental knowledge about the core issues of the Nxplorers and have the entire workshop begin the #positivechange movement.



Helping Hands

The #Helping Hand – Karma Geddit

Restaurant initiative: As part of the fundraising towards the BOOKS MATTER Assin Ochiso Library project, the members of the helping hands have initiated a project named **Karma Geddit Restaurant**. The proceeds from their sales are geared towards the Library Project.

A pilot sale was organized and the menu included pizza, samosa and bissap juice. After a busy day in the kitchen the group was able to cover the cost fee and made profit. They are confident that they can raise a considerable amount from the restaurant to raise funds. Parents can support by donating materials such as: cooking oil, mozzarella cheese, flour, eggs, etc. The restaurant will officially begin operation on 2 May after school.

#TISIBClassof2016 – The Innovators - Part II - They laughed, they frowned. They fought, they thought. They played, they worked. They stressed, they almost left. But all too soon, that is all over. Looking back at what they've been through and the fact that they can almost see the end, coupled with the feeling of wearing the graduation gown for the first time, they know their only option is to finish stronger than they started. Hear them say:



King Torku - I feel relaxed and hopeful that the final exams are in 11 days. For revision, I have cautiously constructed a study time-table that I believe will enable me achieve the best grades possible. What I'll miss most about TIS? Friends and probably, general inspection. ☺

Kuukua Gyan-Tawiah - At the most, I am a bit shaken but I know I can make it because with my hard work and God, nothing is impossible. I am using revision guides and answering questions in order to prepare for these exams and I'm holding discussions with my friends and teachers. TIS was such a learning experience and I will miss everything about it.



Matthew Dzediku – At this point in time there's no learning, only revision and with dedication and motivation I believe that I can cross the finish line with excellence. Mock 2 was stressful but constant practice makes one perfect. I have been able to spot my weak points and I am working on improving them.

David King - To be honest, the last few days seem to have lasted longer than the numerous years I have spent here. I crave the end yet dread the time when my classmates who have been with me for the past 6 years will no longer be my classmates. Most of them have become family and I will surely miss them. It's a portion of mixed emotions that we are all being forced to drink. I have learnt however to make the best of the time I have. So for now I just hope to revise effectively and make every second count. I have been graced with the opportunity to have 2 test runs (Mock 1 & 2), Hopefully the success achieved in these two runs will be magnified in the final leap of my journey in TIS.

Raphaella Agyarko - With only 11 days left to the final exam I feel excited I must say, to know that the end of my 6 years here is finally approaching. At this point I am doing a final read of my notes using the revision guides, solving more past papers intensely, paying attention to HL aspects more importantly, and just....giving my best and surrendering all to God. Personally, I think Mock 2 helped me a great deal as it has shown me my weaknesses and subjects where I need to sit up. One thing I will surely miss about T.I.S. is the group of people who continue to support me here- from Auntie Cecilia to my sisters. I will forever remember them.

Mfon Okutinyang - It's 11 more days till the 'mighty IB'. 11 more days. The rollercoaster journey has almost come to an end. It was a quite bumpy ride but it had a lot of fun smooth roads. Knowing how close I am to the final battle, I look back at these years to see how far I've come and gone, I take a trip down memory lane and I have realized that people I've shared the honor of growing up with will soon become either life-long friends or distant memories. These sad realizations are deepened with every passing moment that leads me closer to my first IB paper. The final battle has led me to strategize a mental plan of rigorous revision and restful breaks to tackle the 'mighty IB'

However, all in all, IB in TIS was an absolutely memorable experience for me as I made new friends, got exposed to a different culture and I am beyond confident that I have the necessary strength and energy to stand triumphant as a true innovator.

Stephen Larbi - With every passing hour the pressure increases; pressure to focus, pressure to study, pressure to succeed. Countdowns towards major events never really meant much to me, but this time I'm really feeling it; the grand finale is almost here. Thus, my game plan is simple. I've recognized my weaknesses and I'll fight every urge to succumb to laziness and unnecessary distractions so I can really push myself. Dev's mentoring program- though I hate to admit it - is proving helpful; peer tutoring and a disciplined study schedule should effectively ready me to attain my goals. I'll miss a lot about TIS: my entire grade 9 year was probably my best experience here ever - that includes France trip. I'll miss the people most of all, not to mention the Thursday fried rice, and Inter-colour events - 'cause the magic's all in the simple things right? I really appreciate Dr. Ken's concern about the IB course regarding its rigor and demanding nature; having someone around to simply ask if you're all right goes a long way.



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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

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 or 0244615255.



Meet our Alumni of the week!



NAME: Clement Asiedu-Antwi

Year Group: IB Class of 2015

Hostel/Colour Group: Francis/ Blue Cedar

Roles played at TIS:

- Hostel Prefect (2014 - 2015)
- Member of the Volleyball team
- Instrumentalist (Band)
- Cast (ensemble) "The Lion King"

Achievements (Projects/Awards):

- Geography HL Award (2013 - 2014)
- Merit List (2013 - 2014)
- Merit List (2014 - 2015)

Current University: University of British Columbia (UBC)

Year: Freshman year

Programme: Bachelor of Applied Science in Engineering

Grade 12 Final Reports (Mock 2)

These reports will be available today. You will be advised by email.

I appreciate your support.
Dr. Ken Darvall

When the guys take over the kitchen.....they mean business #KarmaGetIt



Time to transplant..... #GardenHolics





Journal Making Class. A TIS After School Initiative



Staff Meeting @T.I.S

