

Tema International School presents

SARAFINA

BY MBONGENI NGEMA

Friday Saturday
20 & 21
November 2015

7:00pm

TIS MPH

Adults: Gh¢ 50.00
Children: Gh¢ 25.00

All proceeds go towards students' Community Service projects

TEMA
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2015,

SPORTS

Mid-semester exams are over, so it has been a good time to unscramble November by holding our swimming and athletics carnivals prior to the mid-semester break that commences on Saturday.

Last weekend, we held the swimming carnival over two days from 4.00pm. Age races were held for 25m freestyle, while all other events were open. There was plenty of action, participation, and great support from the students. Yellow won the swimming championships and individual age and division champions are listed below.

SWIMMING CHAMPIONS

Age	Division	Boys	Girls
12	Junior	Michael Kumi	Adoma Agyare
13	Junior	Kofi Lokko	India Agyeman
14	Junior	Samuel Kumi	Natasha Edgal
15	Intermediate	Sedo Sezan	Natasha Tetteh
16	Intermediate	David Adarkwah	Damilola Johnson
17	Senior	Derek Bonsu	N/A
18	Senior	Draiden Sai-Vega	Nana Ackah
Open	Champion of Champions	Michael Kumi	India Agyeman
12-14	Junior Champion	Michael Kumi	India Agyeman
15-16	Intermediate Champion	David Adarkwah	Damilola Johnson
17-18	Senior Champion	Derek Bonsu	Nana Ackah

On Wednesday, we held our athletics carnival, and like everything at TIS, the enthusiasm was contagious. Students training at 4.45am in the morning is typical of the TIS commitment to achieve our best.

Green was the convincing winner of the athletics carnival. Our Boys Champion of Champions was Allan Ayitey while our Girls Champion of Champions was Gabriella Manu. David Qampah proved himself to be the best middle and long distance athlete, while Luke Ige won the shot put and discus double.

- Congratulations to the Alumni who held Grade 12 to a draw in the final match of the Adjavon Memorial Trophy competition. They are worthy and deserved inaugural champions.

A group of 10 swimmers will be representing the school at the National Trials on 1 November. More news will be placed in our first Parents' Bulletin when we return from mid-semester break.

REPORTS

Mid-Semester 1 reports will be released online on 30 October. There will be no paper copy reports printed. Instead, parents will access a PDF version.

Parents of Grade 11-12 students will access these reports on ManageBac. Reports will be found in the Academics section under the Reports tab.

Parents of Grade 7-10 students will access their reports through TISSAMS.

HOW TO ACCESS RESULTS ONLINE (GRADES 7-10)

Please follow the steps below to view the performance of your ward:

1. Navigate to <http://www.tisacademics.com>
2. Create a user account as directed (if you don't already have one from the online admission portal). Ensure you confirm the email address used before proceeding.
3. Log into the system and ensure you are on the **Student Performance** portal (by clicking on the appropriate tab)

4. Add your ward to your profile - You will need the:
 - a. Result code (Student ID) of your ward. Your ward will provide you with the ID if you don't already have it.
 - b. Date of birth of your ward.
5. View the results.

A user guide is attached to help you in case you encounter any difficulty.

INTERVIEWS

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.

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.

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

On 31 October, parents will be able to book their interview times online from 9.00am. To book online, go to:

www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Enter the code: **34G4**

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 interview sessions available, parents may request a meeting with a teacher at a mutually convenient time after 9 November.

BREAK

I trust families will enjoy quality time with their children next week during the mid-semester break. I look forward to students and staff returning revitalized after the break, ready to complete a successful and busy first semester.

FAMILY CONTACT

Following a request from an international parent who experiences poor phone connection with their child at TIS, from 1 November, students will be allowed to access Facetime or Skype using school wifi on their own device (iPod, iPad, or laptop) on Saturdays and Sundays, between 10.00am-5.00pm to make contact with parents or family.

Students must complete all obligations before they make online contact.

Students who breach guidelines will have their device confiscated for one week in the first instance. A second breach will result in confiscation for one month, while any additional breach will result in the student

losing network access and approval to have their device at TIS.

This will be trialled until the end of the first semester.

Note: FaceTime appears to be more reliable than Skype at TIS.

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. In lieu of a laptop, an iPad will be allowed.

SCHOOL EVENTS

Parents are always welcome to attend TIS school events. Whether it is on a weekend, Friday evening, or during the week, we will always be happy to see you support you son and/or daughter, and TIS. Please note that we aim to start and finish on time, if not earlier.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

It will be appreciated greatly if our international students can return on the morning flights on Sunday, 1 November.

5-YEAR CALENDAR

A draft 5-year school calendar of term dates has been prepared and included in this newsletter for feedback before approval. Comments

and considerations should be emailed to info@tis.edu.gh by 1 November.

IB UPDATES

October 2015 has been a wonderful month challenging students in both the curricular sphere (Mid-semester exam), as well as the extra-curricular sphere (Founders week activities, Sports day and Speaker of the year). TIS has gone through a 5 year evaluation of the IBDP. You will be able to see the performance report of your ward through ManageBac at the latest by 30-10-15.

Please keep your activity calendar free on 6-11-15(Friday) for the 3 way conference to discuss your child's performance with their teachers.

Teachers will have the answer scripts of your child with them for you to discuss. You can collect the answer scripts from teachers. Teachers will handover the answer scripts to students after the conference.

Students have been shown the papers and marks have been finalized for the report card after due consultation.

Grade 11 students have been given a chance to review their subject selection post mid- semester exam.

The process for the subject change is as follows

- students come to Mr. Dev after mailing the same to me with a cc

to their parent/ guardian. ,

- take the subject change form and get it signed by the releasing and accepting
- I authorize the same and send a communication to all staff.
- Teachers update their student list in ManageBac .

Grade 12 parents will have the option to personally cross verify the spelling and subjects for which their wards are registered in the May 2016 IBDP exams on Nov 6. I still have not received the passport scan from quite a few in Grade 12. I will update the list on 22-10-15 and will share the names of defaulters on 23-10-15.

Predicted grades for college applications of Grade 12 students have been frozen. To know your ward's predicted grade please contact the ASCCUS team.

November is going to enthrall you with the TIS Annual School Play for which preparations are in a full swing. Please feel free to contact me for any clarification.

ASCC US UPDATES

On **Monday 19th October, 2015** Jill Munroe from the **College of Wooster** (Ohio) met our students. She shared a lot of special things about the school including **research, internship and close student-faculty relationship opportunities**. We were happy to hear that our alumnus Charles

Blankson- Hemans is doing well there. Summaries will be posted on Managebac.

This Saturday, our students are taking the ACT. Parents are reminded that the only acceptable form of identification for all test takers is the **valid (unexpired) passport**. Students will not be allowed to test without their valid passports. All the best to our test takers!

On **Tuesday, 20th October, 2015** James Smith, a representative of Troy University (Alabama, USA) met briefly with our college counselors to discuss the school's undergraduate programmes. Counselors will share relevant updates with students in due course.

November Key Dates

6 November, 2015: CAREERS' DAY

Our students are encouraged to be in their "working gear" on that day. We extend our sincere appreciation to all parents who have accepted to volunteer for the day.

13 November, 2015: It's raining universities! Parents are invited.

- Vassar College
- Colby College
- Grinnell College
- Cornell University
- Columbia University

20th November, 2015:

- Drexel University
- African Leadership University

20 November, 2015: Final Submission of College Applications for UK Schools via UCAS and Universities with deadlines in Dec. to Feb. deadlines

We are a month away from clicking the "submit" button! We are excited that our **IB Class of 2016** has come a long way. IB2 parents are entreated to encourage our students to complete all requirements necessary for the process. Students are reminded to notify their assigned Counselors 2-3 weeks in advance of any impending application deadlines they may have.

College counselors are available to guide and assist students and parents.

A big world. No Restrictions.

While most of our students tend to be more attracted to schools in USA, Canada and the United Kingdom, we encourage them to freely apply to schools all over the world. As long as they are a good fit for them, they have our support. No particular country is promoted above the other for college choices. It is remarkable to have some students and parents make the bold decision of applying solely to Ghanaian universities

because they want a little more experience here.

Feel free to apply anywhere in the world. The world is a BIG place.

HUMANITIES DEPT. UPDATES

SOSHGIC MUN: Forty-five (45) delegates are attending the SOSHGIC MUN Conference (Community 6, Tema) from 22 to 24 October 2015. They will leave T.I.S campus at 7am prompt and return by 5.30pm on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 October 2015. On Saturday 24 October 2015, parents are free to pick their wards from SOSHGIC campus at Community, Tema **OR** from T.I.S at 5.30 prompt.

NHSMUN – National High School Model United Nations

Thirty-four (34) delegates have successfully registered to attend National High School Model United Nations (NHSMUN) in New York Hilton Midtown from 28 February to 7 March 2016. Their parents are urged to meet the payment deadline of 3 November 2016. Those who have not yet submitted their Parental Consent Forms should kindly do so when their wards are returning to school on 1 November 2015 from the mid-semester break. Please contact Mrs. Adelaide Ferguson at aferguson@tis.edu.gh.

CAS UPDATES

"We rise by lifting others." Robert Ingersoll

Hurray!!! It's mid semester already! After such busy weeks, we look forward to spending quality time with our families while catching up with what is happening outside the walls of TIS. We are very proud of our students. They are learning to balance their academics, CAS experiences, extra-curricular and other engagements in and out of school. Our program is indeed rigorous. However, it enables our students to:

- ✓ Be reflective thinkers, who understand their own strengths and limitations and can identify goals and devise strategies for personal growth.
- ✓ Be willing to accept new challenges and new roles.
- ✓ Be aware of themselves as members of communities with responsibilities towards each other and the environment.
- ✓ Be active participants in sustained, collaborative projects.
- ✓ Be balanced and find significance in a range of activities involving intellectual, physical, creative and emotional experiences.
- ✓ Be able to take initiatives and develop the courage to see them through.

Projects - A CAS project is a collaborative, well-considered series of sequential CAS experiences, engaging students in one or more of the CAS strands of *Creativity, Activity, and Service*. **CAS students**



must be involved in at least one CAS project during their CAS programme. A minimum of one month is recommended for a CAS project, from planning to completion. CAS projects of longer duration can provide even greater scope and opportunities for all participants and should be encouraged. Students should aim at undertaking their CAS projects locally and, if possible, engage in more than one CAS project over the duration of their CAS programme.

Our IB 1 (Class of 2017) students are submitting some pretty creative and sustainable project ideas. Watch out, for "The Mosquito Trap Solution", "Buy a liquid soap and feed a child", "Literacy program", "Natural hair Club" and many others. Let's encourage and support our students in their efforts to make their



communities and the world around them a better place.

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH...A BOX OF LOVE - This is an annual event during which time the TIS family reaches out to many children in orphanages, homes and schools around Tema municipalities. Our IB Class of 2017 is initiating the **Box of Love**. We might not be able to change the lives of these children completely, but we can do something to make their Christmas special. We need your support in order to fill these boxes with provisions, toys and clothes for these children. Join us by donating items such as: Nonperishable food, beverages, toys, clothing, etc. Let's come together to spread love around us. The Box of Love event will happen on the 5th of December, 2015 and it's an all-day event.



***Below are updates on our students ongoing projects:**

Akorlikope Support program - Educom project – Thousands of children cannot afford to go to school, they lack cloths, books, food and most of the time money to pay the little fee some of the schools require so they can pay their teachers.

The Educom is back, now under the leadership of **Nubuke, Nadean, Mawuena, Nana Yaw Quarshie and Augustus**; they aim at providing funds to pay GhC 30.00 per term for a child in Akorlikope to go to school. We are happy to inform you that this term school fees for 30 students have been paid. Let's continue to support this noble cause. ☺

Liter of Light Ghana – This is a project initiated by a group of alumni in partnership with our current IB students, aimed at providing affordable solar powered lighting to rural homes in Ghana. Following the efforts of raising funds for the project and under the leadership of **Damilola Johnson, Eileen, Derek, Kukua, Raphaela and David**, the first prototype was installed here on campus on Thursday, 15th October, 2015. Throw your weight behind this worthy cause with your donations and lighten up someone's space.

Final CAS essay IB 2 – After a rich CAS experience, it's time for our

Grade 12 to finalize their CAS portfolios and write their Final CAS Essays.

CAS Student Handbook IB 1 – All Grade 11 students are to study the TIS CAS handbook uploaded on ManageBac and present their Project forms to the CAS team upon their return from mid-semester

Inter-colour competitions –

Knowing that unity is strength, and the fact that where there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved (Mattie J. T. Stepanek).

TIS has over the years promoted togetherness through healthy competition (amongst the colours; **Red Kigelia, Yellow Outeniqua, Green Wisteria, Blue Cedar**) with emphasis on participation and effort rather than results. Many activities have always been put together to lift and uphold the TIS spirit of family and togetherness, and this semester has not been any different. Below are the inter-color events that have taken place so far, those that are yet to take place, and the points and standings of the various color groups.

CURRENT COLOUR GROUP STANDINGS

- **Yellow Outeniqua** – 1st
- **Red Kigelia** – 1st
- **Blue Cedar** – 3rd
- **Green Wisteria** – 4th

INTER-COLOUR EVENTS

COMING UP

- Inter-Color Volleyball, 2nd, 4th & 5th November
- Sport Family, 2016
- Spelling Bee Contest
- Dance Battle
- Current Affairs Quiz
- Chess Tournament

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF BOARDING

Parents are kindly reminded to collect their children from the hostel on Saturday October 24 at 8:00-9:00 a.m. We wish you all an enjoyable mid-semester's break with your children.

EVENTS	POINTS (color with least points is champion)			
	RED KIGELIA	YELLOW OUTENIQUA	GREEN WISTERIA	BLUE CEDAR
Math Day (Exhibition & Presentations)	2	1	4	3
Math Evening (Quiz)	4	3	2	1
Swimming Club-Sundays	2	1	4	3
Founders' Day Singing Competition	1	3	4	2
Swimming championships	2	1	4	3
Athletics Carnival	2	4	1	3
TOTAL	13	13	19	15

drop off time for your children at the hostel is on November 1, Sunday before 5:00 pm. This will allow them to settle well and prepare for the following day's lessons.

CHAPLAINCY UPDATE

Protestant Confirmation Church service
 Date Sunday, 8th November, 2015
 Time:4pm
 Venue: MPH

BIRTHDAYS

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

FEEDBACK

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

We do 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 if you have any queries or concerns.

Warm Regards,
 Dr. Ken Darvall
 Principal



November 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30						1
End-of-Sem Exams begin						Mid Sem break ends, students return to school by 5pm
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Classes resume		IB2 completion of CAS portfolio (Managebac) - Final essay		3 Way Interview Careers Day	SAT	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		HOD meeting	Dept meetings begin		ISSAG track & field events	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Dept meetings end	End of semester questions to HOD's	Coursework & IAs for G10 and 12 final drafts TIS Annual School Play	TIS Annual School Play	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Revision week begins End-of-sem questions to DOS				Revision Week Ends	ISSAG swimming & volleyball	

2015-2020 TIS SCHOOL TERMS & HOLIDAY BREAKS

Semester Aspects	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Semester 1						
Teachers commence	10 August, 2015	1 August 2016	7 August, 2017	6 August, 2018	5 August, 2019	3 August, 2020
Prefects return	7 August, 2015	5 August, 2016	11 August, 2017	10 August, 2018	9 August, 2019	7 August, 2020
New students return	12 August, 2015	10 August, 2016	16 August, 2017	15 August, 2018	14 August, 2019	12 August, 2020
New students orientation	13-14 August, 2015	11-12 August, 2016	17-18 August, 2017	16-17 August, 2018	15-16 August, 2019	13-14 August, 2020
Continuing students return	15 August, 2015	13 August, 2016	19 August, 2017	18 August, 2018	17 August, 2019	15 August, 2020
Classes commence	17 August, 2015	15 August, 2016	21 August, 2017	20 August, 2018	19 August, 2019	17 August, 2020
Mid-semester 1 break	26-30 October, 2015	24-28 October 2016	23-27 October, 2017	22-26 October, 2018	21-25 October, 2019	26-30 October, 2020
Students return	1 November, 2015	30 October, 2016	29 October, 2017	28 October, 2018	27 October, 2019	1 November, 2020
Classes commence	2 November, 2015	31 October, 2016	30 October, 2017	29 October, 2018	28 October, 2019	2 November, 2020
Last day of semester	15 December, 2015	13 December, 2016	12 December, 2017	18 December, 2018	17 December, 2019	15 December, 2020
Semester 2						
Teachers commence	7 January, 2016	5 January, 2017	4 January, 2018	10 January, 2019	9 January, 2020	7 January, 2021
Students return	9 January, 2016	7 January, 2017	6 January, 2018	12 January, 2019	11 January, 2020	9 January, 2021
Classes commence	11 January, 2016	9 January, 2017	8 January, 2018	14 January, 2019	13 January, 2020	11 January, 2021
Mid-semester 2 break	24 March-1 April, 2016	27-31 March, 2017	28 March-6 April, 2018	25-29 March, 2019	23-27 March, 2020	1-9 April, 2021
Students return	2 April, 2016	22 April, 2017	7 April, 2018	27 April, 2019	18 April, 2020	10 April, 2021
Classes commence	4 April, 2016	24 April, 2017	9 April, 2018	29 April, 2019	20 April, 2020	12 April, 2021
Last day for students	11 June, 2016	10 June, 2017	9 June, 2018	8 June, 2019	7 June, 2020	5 June, 2021
Last day for teachers	11 June, 2016	14 June, 2017	13 June, 2018	12 June, 2019	11 June, 2020	9 June, 2021
Total School Days	183	183	183	183	183	183
* Easter long weekend	N/A	* 13-17 April, 2017	N/A	* 16-22 April, 2019	* 9-13 April, 2019	N/A

AYEKOO!!!



TIS celebrates Kwabena Agyare IB Class of 2014 for his extraordinary performance at the Northeastern's Public Speaking Excellence competition! He won with a phenomenal speech about his pride as an African!!! He was a breed of the evergreen TIS Debate Society and rose to become one of its unmatched personalities. His current feat is a rather loud reminder of the health and wealth of the society. This is just a precursor to many jaw-dropping feats for Kwabena and members of the TIS Debate Society.

Our Alumni, our pride.



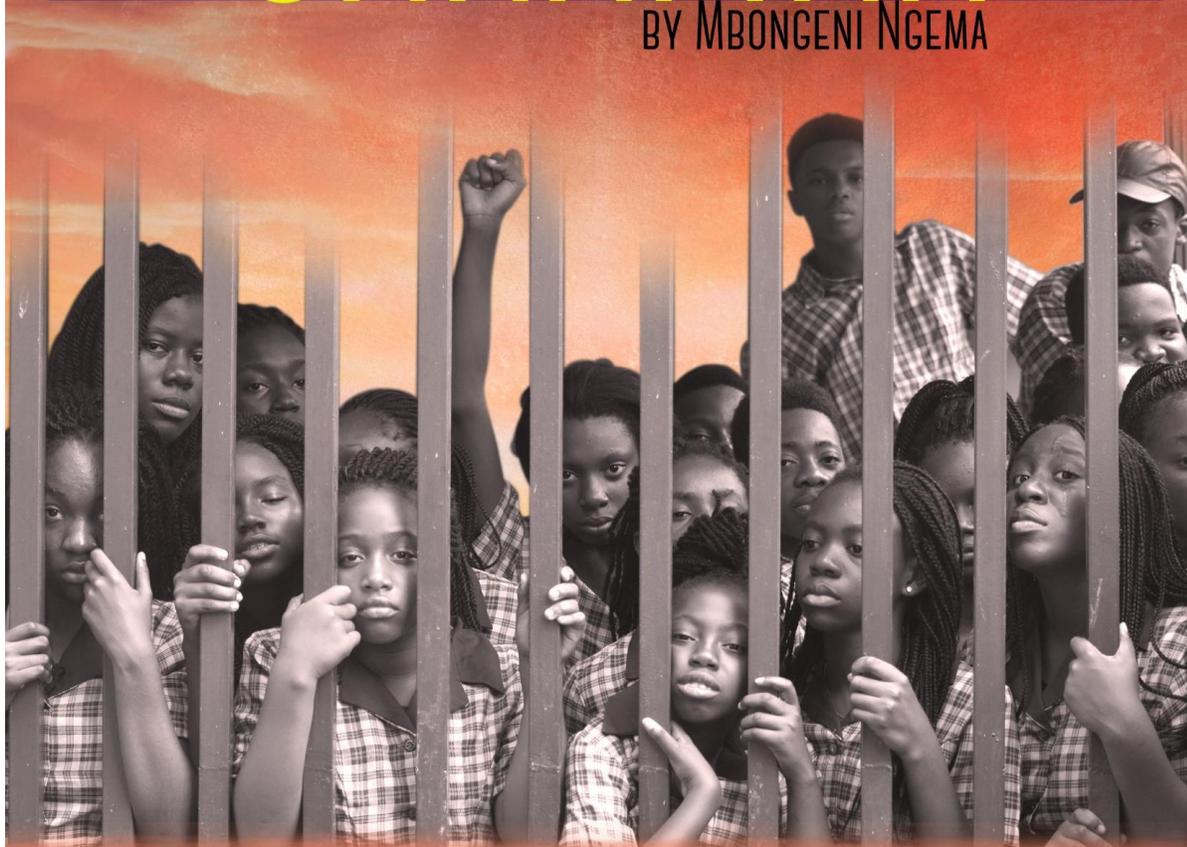
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CREATIVE ARTS UPDATES

Creativity begins right here in tis creative art department. Creativity in pictures and as the saying goes "Action speaks louder than words".



SARAFINA REHEARSALS IN ACTION. LOADING.....60%. 29 DAYS MORE.



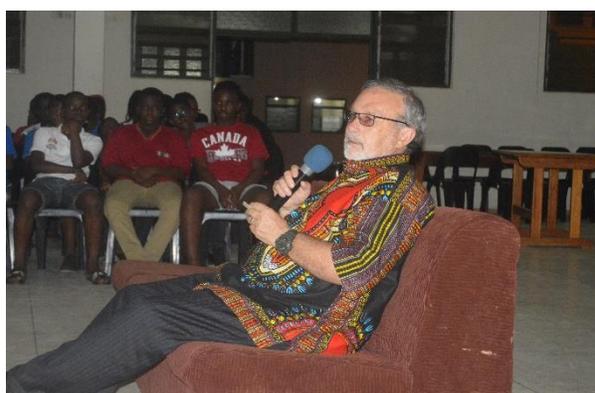
INTER-COLOUR ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



INTER-COLOUR SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS



“IN A COOL SEAT WITH THE PRINCIPAL”



LITER OF LIGHT

