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TIS BULLETIN: 12 MAY, 2017

Thought for the Week

Always be a first-rate version of yourself and not a second-rate version of somebody else.
Judy Garland

Calendar

6/5/17: SAT

20-22/5/17: G12 Trip

25/5/17: African Unity Day

27/5/17: TIS Entrance Exams

31/5/17: ABRSM exams

2/6/17: Leavers Dinner

3/6/17: Achievers & Graduation Day; Students commence vacation (except G10 IG students)

9/6/17: IG exams end; Last day for teachers

16/8/17: New TIS students commence

19/8/17: Continuing students return to hostels

21/8/17: Classes commence for 2017/2018

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Parent Reminders

- If you are experiencing TIS email hassles (and not internet provider issues), then please forward them to support@tis.edu.gh
- Students will not have exeats approved if they have outstanding work to complete.
- Exeat requests for a weekend should be received by COB Wednesdays.
- Students returning from an exeat on a school day must be in full school uniform, including shoes, not sandals.

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Making Us Proud

- Our G12 and 10 students as they continue to remain focused and calm on their external exams. It's been another big week for them.
- Rex Lukpata, our Student of the Week.

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TIS Entrance Exams

The final TIS entrance exams will be conducted on Saturday, 27 May. Only those students whose parents have completed the application process will be eligible to sit these exams. For further information, contact Bijoux. The admission process can be completed online at: <https://tis.openapply.com>

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G9 and 11 Exams

These students will commence end of semester exams on Monday, 15 May, and complete them on Friday, 26 May. Normal lessons will resume on 29 May. [Normal classes will be conducted for Grades 7 and 8 during this period.]

If a student provides written evidence of illness or other exceptional circumstances which prevented a student from attending an examination session, the teacher may extend the period of time for completion of the exam after consultation with the Principal. The duration of the extension is at the discretion of the teacher, with the approval of the head of department and the relevant Program Coordinator. However, the exam must be conducted on the designated date, as scheduled.

The student may be given some time to recover and write the exam later, provided the student is isolated from other students who have taken the exam earlier in the day.

The student may be approved to use a scribe, if there is an injury to the hand that is used in writing.

For approved absences, the teacher will use continuous assessment marks for the reporting period to project a grade for the examination session if the above two measures, are not applicable.

Unapproved absences in any exam session will result in no exam grade. This action will have a significant impact on the overall grade for the subjects for which there is no exam grade.

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Student Lockers

All students have been provided with individual lockers. Students provide their own locks to ensure the security of their belongings. Under these circumstances, it is disappointing to find that text books, or even worse, devices, are missing.

Personal responsibility for belongings is a core value, and is especially important in a boarding school environment. Unfortunately, the cultural value of respect has been misrepresented in the past when an older student may demand something from a younger

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student. This is why there is a no loan or borrow policy when it comes to students' devices, including cables.

In relation to devices, I recommend strongly that parents consider insuring devices after having observed the amount of damaged devices at school. While students should have protective cases for devices when not in use, this is not often the situation.

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G12 Students

Our G12 students, the Initiators, complete their DP exams next week. On Saturday week, they will depart on their 3-day trip provided by the Co-Founder, Mrs Adjavon.

On 2 June, we will celebrate them at our Leavers' Dinner and on Saturday, 3 June, the TIS community has the opportunity to recognise and farewell them at the 2017 Achievers and Graduation Day. Please save this date for this very special group of students, our initiators.

I appreciate your support.

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Dr Ken Darvall
Principal

MYP Corner

Education and Change

I bring this up often; education means change. At the same time education probably is the most sluggish institute when it comes to change. There is a huge contradiction in this where we live in a rapidly changing world and education should move along with it, yet it seems that change freaks us out and we are tempted to leave it the way it is. Throughout my career, working at different school as MYP Coordinator, the common response to change was: "why change, we have done it for 20 years" or "why try to mend if it's not broken". Well, I have one as well: "standing still means going backwards".

Change is just inevitable in education and we will fail our students if we don't. Every decade, change in our global world happens faster than before. We can't rely solely on our own knowledge and experience as what the students need to know perhaps doesn't even exist yet. It is the unknown that we need to educate them for, and that can be a scary thought in itself.

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Sluggish as it may be, every step in this is important, even how small. At TIS we try to enhance teaching and learning as much as possible. Changes happened this academic year and more will happen next year. With the summer holiday approaching rapidly, we are planning for changes over summer. The

interior of the school will see major changes. We will move from homerooms to subject rooms where all subjects will have a number of classrooms. This will allow for more ownership and responsibility of the teachers, where they are in charge of their own subject room. It will allow them to set them up in the best way to support the teaching and learning of their subject. The classrooms will reflect the subjects and programmes taught, through classroom decorations and student work. All classrooms will be freshly painted white (bring in the light!), with one additional colour, which will definitely brighten up the school and create a pleasant learning environment.

The subject rooms will be blocked together and the departments will have their shared offices near them. The latter will allow for better collaboration between the teachers and for students it will be easier to locate specific teachers when needed.

For the students it will require more planning and organisation, as they can no longer leave their belongings in their homerooms. They will have to plan for the day in the hostel and organise their bags for the day. All students have a locker, which is available during the day. This will hopefully solve the current practice of students walking back and forth to their homerooms to fetch certain belongings and then arrive late for class. Self management is an important ATL skill, which can do with some extra attention anyway.

There will be more changes but I will save these for next week!

Ate Hemmes
MYP Coordinator.

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Creative Arts Corner

MEET THE DIRECTORS



The IBDP Budding Directors in the making have been working hard on their directors' notebook aspect of their assessment task for both HL and SL. Some benefits of this life changing experience is in the area of idea development, conceptualisation and team work in realising a vision. This is one fundamental life skill needed for both corporate and social endeavours. These directors are directing a moment in a chosen play text. The demands of that is the research needed to be conducted in selecting an appropriate play text, identifying the context within which the play was written, identifying your own context and interpretation, going through the process of thinking creatively in how to represent that and finally mobilising people and as a leader, getting them to understand your vision and eventually seeing your vision materialise. 3 Directors. 3 different moments in performance..

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CAS Updates



All hail the Prom King and Prom Queen!!!

The **IGCSE Class of 2017 (Grade 10) students** will be holding their Prom “**Dinner Dance**” on the Friday, **16 June, 2017** at the **African Regent Hotel starting 7:00pm sharp.**

This is solely a student/grade-initiated event funded by the students and parents of the grade, through various fundraising projects in school. The student head organisers are **Eliplim Abledu, Fiona Kufuor, Samuel Kumi, Hannah-Elise Mark Cofie, Mamle Kwao, and Juku Attionu.** Supporting parents are *Mrs Dorothy Kinsley-Nyinah, Mrs. Eva Richter-Addo, Mr. Tetteh Antonio, Madam Georgette Barnes and Mrs. Grace Addai.*

KorKor Kwao (TIS

Alumini Organizer), Constance Quaye (librarian) Surama King (CAS Co-coordinator) and Ms. Grace Kabukie Attram (CAS Advisor), will also be present at the dinner in their capacity as Chaperones to the students. Parents are required to drop and collect their wards.

For further clarifications, Kindly direct all queries to **Miss. Grace Attram – 0244-626805** or email her at kabukieattramgh@gmail.com

The theme for the party is the Great Gatsby and after weeks and weeks of preparation towards the completion of IGCSE, the party promises to be nothing else, but splendid, and a night full of memories, fun and laughter for our upcoming IBDP Class of 2019 students.

Please note that this event is **NOT organized** by Tema International School.

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IB Class of 2017 Farewell trip – It’s next week!

On behalf of the IBDP Class of 2017 we would like to say a huge thank you to our Co-Founder, Mrs. Adjavon, for giving us such a treat. Coming next week we will sit and relax while celebrating ... we will be done with IB OMG!

Trip Organizers (*Ida, Sarah, David Gbate and Aaron*)

From the 20 to 22 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

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unforgettable experiences. A consent letter was sent to all parents of the IB class of 2017 last Monday.

TIS IBDP Class of 2017 will finally throw their hat.

SAVE THE DATE

Date: Saturday/3rd June

Time: 9am

Venue: TIS Campus.

For now, it is exam time ☺. Make the best of this opportunity and good luck.



IB Class of 2017 Legacies and Lasting Memories



The IBDP Class of 2017, **'The Initiators'**, have walked along the shores of TIS for two (2) years for their DP Programme, making memorable imprints in the minds and hearts of many. Here are what some staff and students have to say of these legacies and lasting memories.

*To **Sani**, our chat on Tuesday, 9 May 2017 in the CAS Office was the highlight of the month. It was out of the blue, pretty short, the first time and probably the last time we could chat again. But it was worthwhile. Listening to you was engaging and enlightening. You opened my mind that friendship requires **trust**, and **time** and **character**. And as I said, I wish we had spoken earlier. Thank you anyway. It was short, but it was impactful. And remember, 'the future starts now' ☺.
(Ebenezer Asime, CAS Advisor)*

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... *Intellectually creative minds and souls abide in harmony*'. As our school anthem rightfully states, you simply exemplified this trait in your leadership style. **Fafa and Maame Ekua** your cheerful and bubbly smiles filled our hostel with a breeze of warmth, laughter and bliss. The journey hasn't been easy, but you magically massaged issues with patience, temperance and assertiveness in the maintenance of peace and order. As usual, "Girls, let's stay connected" Championing Catherinites girls and hostel parents to work as a family was a fantastic thing to do. Your ethics and values assisted in nurturing princesses with



decorum, finesse and poise.

*As you both step out through a new door, we wish you the very best that life brings and we pray fervently that heaven smiles on all that you dream to achieve. As you function as positive agents of change in making the world a better place, remember you are deeply loved and cherished. **Fafa and Maame Ekua** you rock our world. (Catherine Hostel Parents)*



To **Sarah**, for being the best table head, and **Nubuke**, for always making me happy and who told me to stop messaging her during school and light outs, always making sure I wear a watch, have tissues and tie my hair in a bun. To **Edwina**, for quickly accepting me to the table and making me happy and being the most fun and amazing table head. And **Skinny, Peter, John Paul** and **Ishmael** for always teasing me, laughing with me and making me laugh. **Ida**, for being so nice to me and being an amazing senior and having fun with me. And to **Michelle** and **Eunice**, for being so nice towards me and disciplining me when I go wrong



and being the most amazing hostel prefects. I will really miss you all. (Maame Dankwaa Afranie-Adjei, Grade 7)

*To **Ida**, thank you for always being there for me, for making me and many other students smile. You always looked out for me to make sure I am good. You have been a big sister, and a friend. (Nina Omotsola, Grade 7)*

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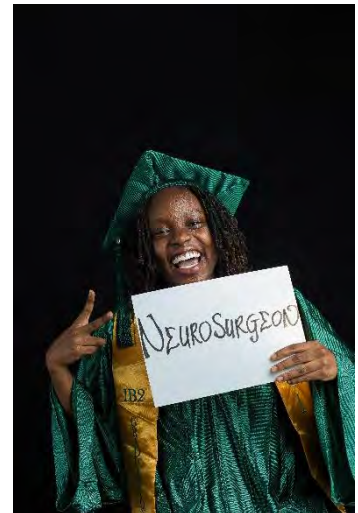
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To **Sarah King**, we even share the same birthday. What a pleasure getting to know you. You have your moments, fear, and anxieties, but know that you are stronger and resilient, more than you think. Maintain your composure, comportment and commitment to duty as it suits you well. I have known you longer than any of your mates, and am extremely proud of you and whom you have become. You do the best water color paintings and have a good eye for nice things. Shine on, Sarah, and may greater opportunities knock on your door wherever you go. **(Grace Kabukie Attran – CAS Advisor)**

To **Odartey Wellington**, I got to know you better during your CAS Initiative process, “Helping Hands” and it even got better when the team initiated the Karma restaurant. It was such a delight to work with you guys. The group was a six-member team, but you caught my attention most because of how you led and managed the group. I admired your leadership skills from the onset and believe it or not I learnt a thing or two from you. You are very respectful, prompt to duty, a good team player, smart and extremely intelligent. I will miss you coming around the CAS Block to get things done and shouting my name when you see me at a distance just to say, Hi Miss Grace!! I was not the least surprised when I read in the Newsletter regarding your Pearson Scholarship at University of Toronto, as you deserve it! You worked hard and remained focused. All the best, Odartey, in your future endeavours. I wish you greatness and as you grow to become a resourceful young man may your remember your life here in TIS. **(Grace Kabukie Attran – CAS Advisor)**



Dear Fellow - #CASProject - #reflection

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*Courage is the ability to look at the challenges ahead and believe that you can conquer them. Two weeks ago, a group of Grade 11 students went out to the Legon Botanical Gardens with the hopes of teaching this virtue to children from the Handy *Vangelism Home in Haatso. The obstacle course set up before us sent chills down most of our spines, but we had to look past them and be brave for the children. Little children with big dreams of becoming soldiers, doctors and lawyers surrounded us with enthusiasm to try something new but little did they know the nightmare that awaited them. It was*



due to our dedication to helping them become more self-confident that we put our fears away, lifted our chins higher and cheered them on with words of encouragement as they attempted the obstacle course. Some of them were flabbergasted, some shook and others were in tears, but we had to keep encouraging them to keep going although the course was getting harder. At the end of this activity the children were fulfilled and they understood the importance of perseverance. Initially, we aimed at teaching the children, but we ended up learning from them as well. The experience was unimaginable and has taught me the true value and importance of courage. (Mifatu Gadzekpo-Co-initiator)



When you Tweet about your #CASproject and the Editor of

the **IBWorldmag** comments ... yes it is a BIG deal!!! Dear Fellow team is putting together their article to share their experience with the world.

* *Let's do our bit to spread kindness.*

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Girls United #CASproject



*As a growing, educated, and enlightened young woman, my advocacy for the empowerment of women is strengthening. I joined **Girls United**, a CAS project initiated by*

Rachel Odartey-Wellington and Marie-Noelle Kpatakpa, in December last year because their core objective of empowering young girls was admirable.

On Sunday, 7 May, 2017, the group was privileged to have met with an adolescent health officer at the Ghana Health Institute. Ms. Grace Amewu shared some stories about young girls who have been molested and sexually



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abused, and I pondered over how appreciable my childhood was and how blessed I am to be where I am today without having to recall any of such tragic experiences like the ones these young girls have had to encounter.

Ms. Amewu directed us to a website (<http://www.ghananewsagency.org/features/sharing-the-sex-story-of-today-s-adolescent-114060>) where we read about a ten-year-old girl who was given to a man for sex by a stranger who promised to buy her sachet water. The quagmire, that a girl can be in so much as not being able to buy sachet water for herself. This story, as saddening as it is, inspired the group to visit of the victims of molestation and sexual abuse to hear their stories and donate some food items and toiletries. In order to contribute in the smallest way, I suggested that Feed a Child (an initiative by Prosper Adabla and myself) could organize the food donations to the girls. It would demonstrate the love and support we have for these girls. The donation will be made hopefully somewhere in June.

I hope to see Girls United expand as a group in order to strengthen the impact we have on young girls. (Jadyn Thanki _ Grade 11)



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Magazine Updates... THE HUB

It's been a semester long of planning, writing, designing, photo shoots, sending out sponsorship letters, and doing all that we possibly could to outdoor the 9th Edition of the TIS Magazine... **THE HUB**. This year's magazine promises nothing less than a mesmeric experience as you flip through each page. It's detailed in writing and design, and outlines the true essence of



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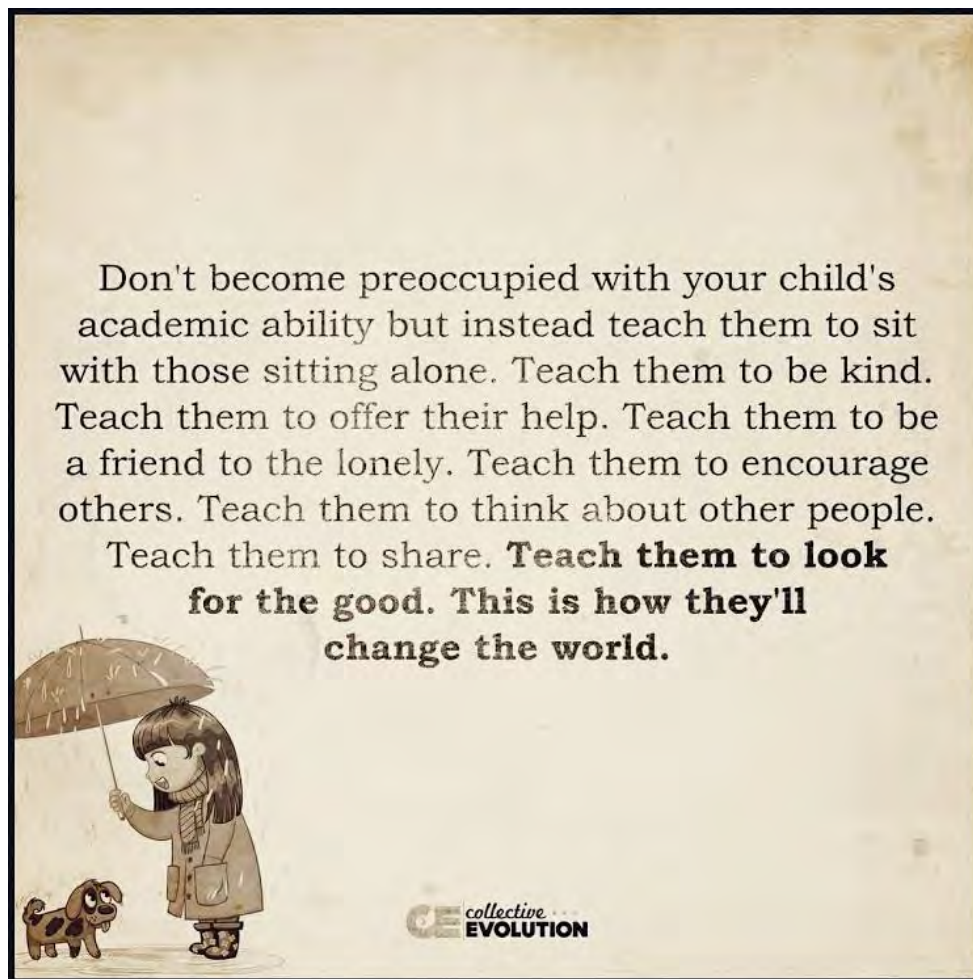


TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Tema International School and the academic year. **The Hub**, as the name heralds, tells of the daily epic tales of students and of activities, and events, within and out of school. The magazine promises to bring to life the already past events of the semester. It will be exciting, fun filled and almost like a dream. Make sure to look forward to grabbing your copy at Achievers Day and Graduation Ceremony – 3 June, 2017. It's going to be great! (**Anna Maria – Editor**)

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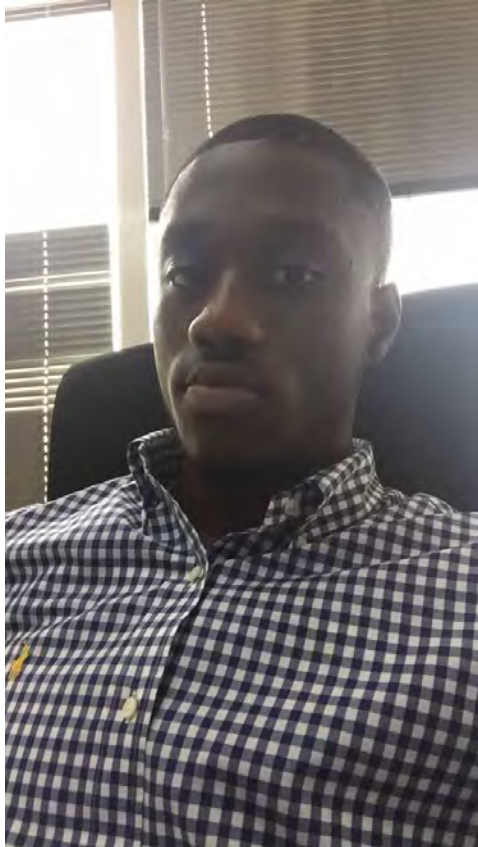


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Our Alumni of the Week



Full Name: Marlvin Owusu

Year Group: 2008

Hostel & Colour Group: Anthony & Yellow

Roles played at TIS: Volleyball Team, Cross Country team, Swim team, Classrooms Block Prefect (2004/2005)

Achievements/Awards in TIS: (If it fits the category)

Overall best delegate in MUN held at TIS (internal and I think it was the first we did); Certificate for coming 5th in a Cross country race; Won the first ever inter-hostel singing competition with Anthony- we won for both best traditional and contemporary song. Led the team with then hostel prefect Rowland Ekuban and was the conductor.

Most Memorable experience in TIS: After our first IB paper, about 10 of the boys in my grade were already stressed out (that's what happens when you are supposed to be studying like the serious girls we had in our class instead of playing fifa during revision periods). So we decided to do what we do best. i.e. eat gari and shito. This time however, an argument broke out between two of my class mates which led to insults such as foolish fool (local boy insult) and waste

man (British boy insult clearly) flying about in the dormitory. We eventually managed to calm both of them down. The end result, we all had to form a line with one ball of gari in our hand. Local boy was the one who had the bowl with the shito, baked beans and corned beef concoction; hence he was the most important in the room and we therefore had to follow his orders. British boy consequently had to go back to the end of the queue. As destiny will have it when a group of boys are gathered to eat, that line lasted like 10 seconds; "scatney pai".

Undergraduate University: University of Portsmouth

Postgraduate University: City University London

Year of Graduation: Undergraduate 2012; Postgraduate 2014

Major/area of Specialisation: Business Studies/Business Economics

Achievements in College: International Students Officer (Bronze Award at Activities Awards Dinner at the end of 1 year tenor); Won the volleyball league with Horndean Volleyball club in UK division 3.

Achievements out of College: Co-founder & Director of Samarl Limited, a handyman service company (property repairs and maintenance covering areas such as plumbing, electrical works, carpentry, painting, cleaning, fumigation, gardening etc) established in September 2015 with my best friend Samuel Opoku from TIS.

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Currently working at: Fidelity Bank

Position Held: Junior Relationship Manager

Key Word in life: H²=Hard work*Humility

Philosophy: “fall down 7 times, get up 8”-Denzel Washington

Word of Advice: You are in charge of your own destiny and career journey through the daily choices you make. However, never forget to place God at the centre of your success story, because He completed it before you even began.

HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY!!!



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What We Do (In Photos)



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