



# TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



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## TIS BULLETIN: 2 FEBRUARY, 2018

### Thought for the Week

Fear doesn't need doors and windows. It works from the inside.

- Andrew Clements

### Calendar

6/2/18: Applications close for Yale Young African Scholars Program

14-15/2/18: MYP Consultancy Visit

16/2/18: IB African Education Festival (Accra)

24/2/18: Science Fair

### Making US Proud

- TIS Girls' Basketball Team: undefeated last Saturday at the ISSAG Championships until the final against Akosombo. It was a great display of teamwork. The girls still hold bragging rights over the boys who took their time working out their mojo last Saturday.
- G11: Who are completing their third day at Akorlikope, our adopted village and focus for a significant part of our service learning activities: helping to make the world a better place.
- Tiffany Forson: the first applicant to complete the TIS online admission test last Saturday and she is looking forward to commencing G7 in August.

### Reminders

• Yale Young African Scholars Program: TIS is again hosting this exciting program from 11-20 August 2018. Applications are now open and admission is highly selective and open to students between the ages of 14-18 years. Best news: YYAS is free to all participants. Please see the flyer inside this Bulletin for more details. Importantly, apply now and don't leave it too late and miss out. **Applications close on 6/2/18 – in 4 days.**

• Exeats: As from 13 November, all exeat requests must be completed and submitted online. To access the online exeat form, please go to: <https://www.tis.edu.gh/exeat-form>  
[Note: If you receive a 404 error message, page not found, then please clear your website history and data and retry the link.]

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- Please read school communications. [Note: if you can't access the weekly TIS Bulletin or Monthly Newsletter, this means you have not yet logged into ManageBac.]
- TIS Events: Parents are always welcome to attend any school event.
- ManageBac (MB) and Naviance: If you have any difficulties registering or logging in, please email Ken ([principal@tis.edu.gh](mailto:principal@tis.edu.gh))
- Student Medication: Any student medication must be sent to the Infirmary, along with medication instructions.
- Devices: Until further notice, students will only be allowed one laptop computer for use at school. Tablets, iPads and iPods will not be allowed. This action emphasizes that devices are to assist students with their learning and not distract them from learning. Students without laptops will be able to access the IT Lab during school hours.

## MYP: The Next Step @ TIS

Next academic year (2018/2019), TIS will continue the implementation of MYP as a Candidate School by introducing it into Grade 9. As a MYP Candidate School, we will still need to offer the IGCSE as an option for G9 students. Over the next two weeks, we will explain the options to our current G8 students so that we have an early indication of the likely numbers for MYP and IG in G9.

They will be separate programs, and students will need to make a choice. Students and their teachers love MYP, so we look forward to our inaugural MYP (as a Candidate School) class from 2016 having the opportunity to continue with MYP.

What will be the difference for those students who take MYP, instead of IGCSE? There will be several contrasting features for MYP students in G9. MYP students will:

- focus on concepts in context, and not content;
- study six compulsory subjects, similar to DP, for four hours per week;
- have the option to study additional subjects, over five hours per week, from 2.30-3.30pm each day, as personalised learning;
- enjoy three hours built into the timetable for support, or personal study;
- enjoy one Genius Hour per week as a strategy to lead into their Personal Project;
- complete a Personal Project, similar in ways to the Extended Essay, (during G10);
- have the opportunity to experience e-assessments at the end of G10, similar to what is being planned for DP exams from 2021;
- not have any formal exam sessions during G9 (but will experience two e-assessment experiences before the final G10 e-assessments).

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There are exciting times ahead for our G9 MYP students from August 2018. More information will be sent to current G8 parents over the next few weeks.

## Admissions for 2018/2019

Admissions for 2018/2019 opened on 1 December.

It benefits TIS if our admissions process is completed early, by the end of May. The benefit to parents for completing the admission process early is discounted fees at the application and admission stages of the process.

Online aptitude testing will replace the traditional entrance exam. This change has two benefits for students:

- it eliminates any bias for students studying under different school curriculum programs; and
- the test can be completed at TIS at any time convenient to the student (and parents) and TIS.

Consequently, there will be no fixed testing dates. Families should advise Bijoux of suitable dates and times so that the testing can be completed, and you can save some money. The next discount deadline is 28 February.

Detailed information about admission to TIS and the process can be found at:

<https://tis.openapply.com>

For parents who already access MB: In this case, the parent should sign into OpenApply using their e-mail address that is already in OpenApply at the following link:

[https://tis.openapply.com/parents/sign\\_in](https://tis.openapply.com/parents/sign_in)

They can set their password by clicking 'Forgot Password?':

<https://tis.openapply.com/parents/password/new>

Once they have signed in, they can click to add a new applicant, and can start the application for their other child.

## ISSAG Athletics Championships

We have been advised that the ISSAG Athletics Championships may now be held on 28 April.

I appreciate your support.

**Dr Ken Darvall**  
Principal

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# Yale

Yale MACMILLAN CENTER

## Young African Scholars Program



The Yale Young African Scholars (YYAS) Program is a cost-free, intensive academic and residential program designed for high-achieving African secondary school students.

YYAS exposes students to various opportunities for post-secondary education. Participants will enhance their academic skills, receive university admission and financial aid application guidance, and join a network of young leaders from across the continent!

Applicants must currently attend a secondary school in Africa and have at least one full academic term after August 2018 to complete their studies. Admission is highly selective and open to students between the ages of 14 and 18. **YYAS is free for all participants.**



The 2018 YYAS Program will be hosted in two locations:

**RWANDA:** 29 July – 07 August

**GHANA:** 11 August – 20 August



**APPLY ONLINE** | [africanscholars.yale.edu](http://africanscholars.yale.edu)

Deadline | 06 February 2018 @ 11:59pm EST

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## DP CAS Updates



## TIS Amnesty Club

### Launched Anti-Corporal Punishment Advocacy-Campaign

On Friday 26 January, the TIS Amnesty Club launched the Anti-Corporal Punishment Campaign at the school's premises. The launch brought together many stakeholders in the educational sector who added their voice on the need to promote positive behaviour in schools. The guest speaker, *Mr. Anis Haffar*, a renowned educationist and trainer of teachers, emphasised the role of students to be self-responsible towards their own wellbeing in school. Though there was no consensus regarding how soon corporal punishment will be eradicated in Ghanaian schools (despite its abolishment), all the panellists were very clear in their presentations on the need for a unifying front to end corporal punishment in Ghana. The panellists, - Ghanaian schools. The panellists were, *Dr. Wiafe-Akenten Brenya* - a Snr. Lecturer with the Department of Psychology, University of Ghana; *Mrs. Rosina Adobor*, the Kpone Katamanso Municipal Director of Ghana Education Service and *Ms. Chloe Asiedu*, a final year student of Tema International School and the initiator of the TIS Amnesty Club. Also part of the panellists were *Mrs. Hannah Osei*, the Human Rights Education and Activism Coordinator of Amnesty Ghana and *Ms. Akua Boatemaa Duah*, the Child's Advocate for Challenging Heights NGO. Present at the launch were 7 invited schools with both staff and student representatives. The schools included, *Chemu Snr. High School*, *Ashaiman Snr. High School*, *Don Bosco Technical Institute*, *Tema Ridge School*, *Kingscourt International School*, *The Lordstar International School* and *Calvary Presby Basic School*. Participants in their own ways pledged towards the course of the campaign, by writing the actions they will be taking to promote responsible behaviour in schools, and end all forms of violence in schools.

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After a successful launch, the TIS Amnesty Club will proceed with the campaign with a series of joint workshops with the invited schools on **promoting responsible behaviour among students**. In addition, the campaign will be sharing the

various pledges of the participants on social media to carry on with the discourse on the focus of the campaign. So lookout for the campaign handle - **#TISAmnestyClub**

## CAS project

**Home Turf Initiative** by Hannibal Richter-Addo, Kekeli Lithur, Jeremy Sunkwa-Mills, Taruwaye Findley-Antonio and Kwadwo Ohemeng.



We aim to help the youth of Ghana become more active and help the under-privileged realize their passion for sports. Through the efforts of the team, we were able to purchase two soccer posts and a soccer ball for GHC614.00. The beneficiaries will be the youth of **Akorlikope community**. We will set up a soccer playground for them to have fun and train to be better. Our next

beneficiary will be the **Labone community** soccer field. We will attempt to get them new nets for their soccer posts, new soccer balls to use as well get bins to help clean up the area. We call upon the TIS community and all soccer fans to support our course. Let us support our youth to grow through soccer. *"We are the Home Turf Initiative [#CASProject](#). "We aim to help the under privileged youth of Ghana to engage in sporting activities by providing sporting equipment's and training – (Hannibal Gr 11-Initiator)"*

**HELP US HELP THEM**

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## CAS - Service Learning trip to Akorlikope.



To all parents who send their concern a big thank! During our CAS trips everyone is expected to be engaged throughout. Be principled, be open minded, be risk takers, be caring, be balanced and be committed. The Akorlikope trip is a great opportunity to do something meaningful to the community and have an unforgettable experience. Students will be engaged in a range of activities, such as:

**Red Cross team** – They will facilitate workshops -

first aid and social awareness.

**Playground construction** – The team will use old tyres, wood and ropes to build a playground for the Graceland Kids

**Building team** – They will plaster the walls and finish the floor of the last classroom and start a foundation for the canteen and toilets.

**Sports team** (Basketball, soccer and handball) – Donations of sports items and also facilitate a sports competition.

**Literacy team:** Art, Math and English classes – This team will facilitate all classes from Grades 1 to 6. They will prepare posters and also engage the Graceland students in fun academic activities. 30 minutes before closing they will have a session on personal hygiene.

**Entertainment team:** Play rehearsal - A drama skit on the importance education will also be rehearsed with some students of Graceland and shown to the townspeople to raise awareness on the need to take and keep their children in school.

**Board game** – They will play the game of Chess with a group of Graceland students interested to learn the skill.

**Cooking team** – Will cook and serve all meals to the TIS team, Graceland kids and workshop participants, making a total of 160 people a day. Meals are cooked using fire wood in a stone improvised stove.

**Media Team:** Documentation – Pictures and videos of the process.

**Entertainment team** – will suggest ideas for evening activities and also facilitate them. Two Students will lead, they will work with a team they can choose. They will take a laptop and speakers

**Exploration:** Trek to the neighbouring villages of Akorlikope to know more about their culture.



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**Educom** (Pay school fees and donation of stationary to the Graceland children)

**Clean up** – The whole grade

Follow us on twitter for updates: [https://twitter.com/SuramaKing\\_TIS](https://twitter.com/SuramaKing_TIS)

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MYP Service in Action

## MYP Corner

### Assessment in the MYP

With the upcoming MYP Consultation Visit, in two weeks time it was necessary to review our policies and make sure they are really up to date and reflect the status quo at TIS and reflect the requirements of the IB. Doing so I also realized that it would be a good idea to put a little article about assessment in the weekly bulletin, as a reminder or perhaps even where it is new to parents of students who recently joined TIS.

At TIS we see learning as a lifelong experience of which assessment is a major component. Assessment is used on a daily basis to ensure direct feedback to inform students and teachers about their learning and teaching as well as informing the parents about the achievements of their children. Students might be assessed on project work, presentations to class, role-play and debate, essays, or tests etc.

Assessment aims to support and encourage a positive attitude of student learning as well as driving the ongoing development of the middle school curricula. Units are developed in such a way that they are challenging, interesting but also

rigorous enough to allow the students to reach the highest levels of achievement. As the MYP follows a holistic approach we want the students to recognize what is taught links to real life, which is done also through the Key- and Related Concepts and the Global Contexts.

Assessment is carried out as both Formative and Summative.

Formative assessment means that students will be given assessed feedback on their work to help them improve it. This is the feedback that the student receives on a daily basis in many



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different ways, which will allow for improvement. Students themselves will also be involved in this assessment, through assessing their peers or themselves.

Summative assessment is an activity at the end of a project, unit or term, made by the teacher and often used for reporting purposes.

**Ate Hemmes**  
**MYP Coordinator**

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## Science Corner

### Introduction

“Recycling takes a little effort on your part but makes a big difference in the world.” An MYP project was undertaken by the Grade 7 class on how to use household materials to design a simple machine. This not only harnesses their creativity but also teaches them ways by which they can recycle waste materials.

### Reflections from Grade 7 students

Science class was a great experience with all the projects and all the bright ideas. It just reminded me why I love science! It's all so mesmerising to see all the creative project my fellow classmates are doing, for example, a water filter, etc... Also my project the hydraulic arm which is moved by syringes connected to the arm itself is pretty awesome. For the science fair, we were focusing on making useful or productive things with recycled materials which is really turning out to be a big hit with many successful projects in our class and the whole school.

~ Joshua Busia

On 22 January, my class started a weeklong project about turning recycled material into useful contraptions. On the first day, it was quite confusing, We had to use both our scientific and constructive knowledge along with a YouTube video. I decided to pick a cardboard chocolate vending machine because it would help giving snacks during the science fair and the money would go to charity.

We had some obstacles, as some of the materials needed for our work were not available. We had to improvise and use cardboard as popsicle sticks, and kebab sticks as dowel sticks.

Our work involved lots of friction and other forces. I also realized that if we made a small mistake it would affect our whole machine. Our machine needed to be working really well and everything needed to be in place, otherwise something could slip and ruin the whole

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process. I learnt a lot of lessons like we should never rush when working and we should always try as much as possible to be precise with our measurements.

Overall, it has been quite an exciting and technical project. There were lots of mistakes that were made, but we corrected them. .  
~**Shamita Vasnani**

In our science class, we recently began our projects for the science fair. In my opinion, I think that it is a brilliant way to involve all the students. The topic for this year's science project is talking about using recycled matter to create an innovative idea for recreational, academic or economical purposes.

In each group is an amount of people who will research and come up with a project. My group initially decided to do multiple projects but later on, eliminated some ideas and merged the ones that we preferred. As a result, we are making a filtration process and a system for plant growth out of recycled matter.

Empty bottles will be filled with loamy soil and semi- grown plants. Cut bottles will be placed beneath the bottles to collect excess supported by copper. Holes must be created at the base of the cut bottles to insert tubes, creating a pipe line for the water to pass through into another bottle with layers of filter paper. The water filtered will be transferred into a plastic can. This water can be used to used to water the plants again or for other daily activities.~ **Ewuraba Benyarko**



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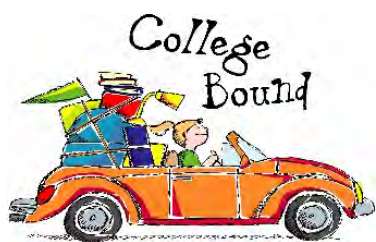




## Counselor's Corner



**Grade 10s & DP2s Decide, Commit Yourself to Succeed! The Grades Come First!**



### **Ghanaian Universities Application Forms Out Now!**

Thinking of furthering your undergraduate degree programme in Ghana? Certainly worth considering.

**All interested DP2 students are required to have their parents / guardians purchase the forms and submit them to the College Guides no later than next week **Friday, 9 February 2018** for group completion of forms and timely submission to the various universities.**

An initial email has been sent to all parents whose children registered their interest with us.

Please find a summary of application details below:

### **Ashesi University**

Application fee payment

The cost of application is GHC100 for Ghanaian applicants and \$50 for international applicants.

Mobile money Payment:

1. Transfer GHS 100 to mobile number: 054 454 8864
2. Name of recipient should be Ashesi University/Anna Reimmer
3. Applicants should quote the following information on their application form:
  - a. Mobile number used for transaction by applicant
  - b. Transaction ID and or reference number.

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4. Once receipt of funds is confirmed, a receipt will be issued by Ashesi. (Submit copy of receipt of payment to College Counselor)
5. Ashesi Application fee can also be made at any Ecobank Branch in Ghana & West Africa (Cedi Account):  
Account Name: Ashesi Admission fees  
Account Number: 0200014411600905  
Bank: Ecobank  
Branch: Osu  
More details plus wire transfer information available on Ashesi University website  
Visit: <http://www.ashesi.edu.gh/admissions/how-to-apply.html>

## University of Ghana, Legon

Application fee payment:

1. E-VOUCHERS can be obtained by **Ghanaian applicants for GH¢200.00 at the following banks: Ecobank, HFC Bank, Agricultural Development Bank, Ghana Commercial Bank, Zenith Bank, Merchant Bank, UniBank, Prudential Bank and Fidelity Bank.** [All applications are done online.](#)
2. Visit : <http://www.ug.edu.gh/>

## Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology

Application fee payment:

1. Payment must be made when application packet is purchased at the Post Office. Application Forms, comprising copies of Admission Requirements for the various Programmes of Study, Guidelines for the Completion of Application Forms, Prepaid EMS Envelopes and Forms costs **GH¢180.00**. Purchase undergraduate application packet (no longer select matured applicant forms)

Visit: <https://www.knust.edu.gh/admissions/prospective/ugadmissions>

## Lancaster University, Ghana

They aim to make the application process as streamlined and simple as possible for our prospective students.

Application fee payment:

Follow the guidelines below to apply:

1. Download and complete Application Form ([Undergraduate application](#))\_

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2. Submit application form-Completed applications can either be submitted in person at the Lancaster University Ghana Campus (opposite A&C Square, Jungle Road, East Legon, Accra) or via email to [admissions@lancaster.edu.gh](mailto:admissions@lancaster.edu.gh). Or submit to T.I.S. College Counselors
3. Payment of deposit required only when admission is offered.

Visit: [www.lancaster.edu.gh](http://www.lancaster.edu.gh)

## Webster University, Ghana (East Legon)

Application fee payment:

1. Go to application page, login with your username and password to start your application. Complete the application in 15-20 minutes.

There is an application fee of 200GHC (outside of Ghana: US\$50) that can be paid online. Or it can be collected later **but** at the payment screen you can contact the university about a fee waiver and enter a Fee Waiver Code before you can submit the application.

2. **Request a code** by sending an email: [ghana@webster.edu](mailto:ghana@webster.edu)

**Following online payment, Webster University will then send** you a confirmation and ask you to submit all the supporting documents by email, or you can drop it off or mail it to them. You may be required to take a test.

<http://www.webster.edu.gh/admissions/undergraduate/>

*All other Ghanaian University applications not listed can be purchased by parents/guardians and completed with the help of the College Guides. **Please peruse the programmes available to be sure they offer the course your child wants before purchasing any university forms.***

## Reminder on Test Dates for the Academic Year (2018).

### SAT 2017-2018

TEST DATE	REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT DEADLINE
MARCH 10, 2018**	JAN. 9, 2018
MAY 5, 2018	MARCH 6, 2018

### ACT 2017-2018

TEST DATE	REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT DEADLINE
April 14, 2018	Feb. 16, 2018

**SAT SUBJECT TEST ONLY \* & REGULAR SAT ONLY \*\***

**DP1 students are advised to take note of this year's test dates and prepare accordingly.**

- **SAT MARCH EXAM REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED.**
- **ACT EXAM REGISTRATIONS ARE STILL ONGOING.**

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DP1 STUDENTS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO PREPARE TO TAKE THESE EXAMS IF THEY ARE CONSIDERING U.S. UNIVERSITIES. Interested students should please sign up with their counselors.

## Please Note!

AT T.I.S., we strongly advise DP1 students to take all standardized test for their U.S. universities at least once or twice before they complete DP1. This eases the burden of taking these tests in DP2 where they have other IB academic demands as senior DP2 students.



**BEGINNING THIS YEAR (JANUARY 2018) ALL SAT AND ACT REGISTRATIONS AND PAYMENTS WILL BE DONE ONLINE. PAYMENTS ARE TO BE MADE BY PARENTS DIRECTLY ONLINE VIA CREDIT CARD, TO REGISTER THEIR CHILDREN, AHEAD OF REGISTRATION DEADLINES.**

**Please do not hesitate to contact the College Guides with any challenges you may face signing up your child online.**

## UPCOMING UNIVERSITY VISITS!

DATE	SCHOOL / INSTITUTION	TIME	VENUE
24/JAN/18	EDUCANADA UNIV. FAIR	3:00pm	KEMPINSKI HOTEL
29/JAN/18	IAES UNIVERSITY FAIR	2:30pm	T.I.S. EINSTEIN EXAM HALL
01/FEB/18	AMITY GLOBAL BUSINESS SCHOOL, MAURITIUS	2:30pm	HP EXAM HALL
20/FEB/18	ASTON UNIV., UK VISIT	3:30pm	T.I.S. LEARNING CENTRE
21/FEB/18	UNIV. OF SOUTHAMPTON, UK VISIT	9:45am	T.I.S. HP EXAM HALL
23/FEB/18	STUDY UK EXHIBITION (BRITISH COUNCIL)	10am	ACCRA INT'L CONFERENCE CENTRE
08/MARCH/18	YORK UNIVERSITY, CANADA	2:30pm	Skype presentation- HP Exam Hall
20/MAR/18	AUBURN UNIV., USA VISIT	11am	T.I.S. HP EXAM HALL (Counselors only)



Ghana High School Tour 2018, @ T.I.S.. This year's high school tour was phenomenal and was organized by International African Education Summit (IAES), Ghana. Our students interacted with admissions representatives. *Here are a few pictures and a short write-up on the visit:*

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### 1. Brunel University, UK

- An ultra-modern university situated in a serene congenial atmosphere of West London.

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- Excellent learning facilities with expert teaching, research skills, small class size about 20.
- A hub for international students' education abroad.
- Scholarships available for all students.
- Popular Programs: Law, Economics, Engineering, Business and Health Care.
- Visit: [www.brunel.ac.uk](http://www.brunel.ac.uk)

## 2. Coastal Carolina University, U.S.A.

- A beautiful unique learner-friendly university as the hub for experiential learning growth and self- development.
- 94% guaranteed jobs for graduates as well as strong alumni in fortune 500 companies; Amazon, Google, Bank of America, Walt Disney, Ralph Lauren, Adidas, Coca Cola.
- Academic Majors: Business, Education, Humanities and Fine Arts, Science.
- A host of international students from many countries such as Africa, China, India, Korea.
- Visit: [www.coastal.edu/admissions](http://www.coastal.edu/admissions)

## 3. University of Nottingham, China, U.K., Malaysia campuses

- A cultural diverse, superb and globally connected university in China, UK and Malaysia.
- Excellent curriculum with intensive research-based learning, internships and work exchange programs opportunities.
- 100+ students clubs with exciting, life changing unique discoveries and exploration.
- Added advantage of dual language acquisition in Chinese.
- Academic Majors: Business, English, International Communications, Science etc.
- 100% graduate employability with over 70 international countries.
- Visit: [nottingham.edu.cn](http://nottingham.edu.cn) for more information.

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## 5. Middlesex University, UK

- A cohesive multi –diverse University as the best option for international exposure in Mauritius, London, Dubai and Malta.
- Cutting edge competitive advantage with excellent state of art facilities
- An amazing learning with guaranteed jobs +100 clubs and associations to choose from.
- An incredible campus with programs including; Business Arts, Science and Technology.
- Availability of scholarships, career development through internships and designed work study programs.

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- Academic Majors: Business, Engineering, Music, Photography.
- Visit: [www.middlesex.mu](http://www.middlesex.mu)

## 6. University of Guelph, Canada

- An exciting, life changing learning experience located in the safest and affordable place in Ontario.
- Excellent tuition from experienced professors with a small class size approximately 20.
- Paid internships and work study programs, Faculty-Student ratio 23:1
- Popular Majors: Business, Food and Agriculture, Engineering, Arts and Social Science, Human Health.
- A city of music and Signature of rich music festivals.
- Availability of Merit Based scholarships as the center for international students.
- Visit: [www.uoguelph.ca](http://www.uoguelph.ca)

## Grade 10 Guidance Class (Overview of IB Diploma Programme and Subject Selection Guidance)

The IB Coordinator Mr. Chander Dev introduced the essence and scope of the IB programme to the Grade 10 students and touched on the IB subject choices. Students began the initial subject selection process which will be continued next week. *See picture below:*



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## Grade 7 Guidance Class: Research Skills

Our Grade 7s practised how to skim through journals and to identify salient information; an introduction to research skills. Mr. Festus Ollennu (Librarian) taught the lesson. *Below is a picture of the session:*



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## IBDP Update

DP 1 students are in Akorlikope for their CAS project and DP2 students are completing their internal assessments sequentially as they get ready for their English orals from 12-14 February. Action update for the weeks ahead.

### Internal Assessment submission dates for DP2

The next 2 months DP2 students will be submitting their Internal assessments as listed on ManageBac (calendar)

### Mock exams for DP2

Mock exams for DP2 will start on 9 - 23 March 20. A detailed schedule will be shared with the students on ManageBac.

### IBDP Subject Selection- Class of 2020

Grade 10 students were introduced to the basics of IB diploma program during this week. They have started their draft subject selection for the diploma. I request parents to contact their wards to guide them in choosing appropriate subjects. Parents can mail the DP coordinator – [dpc@tis.edu.gh](mailto:dpc@tis.edu.gh) for any clarification.

### Revision Plan.

Final exams for the DP class of 2018 are 85 days away and the students are making effective use of their prep time.

**Chander Dev**  
IBDP coordinator.

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## Arts Corner

### Grade 7 MYP Music class -The Orchestra

How well do you know about the orchestra? Do you remember some of the famous composers of orchestral music, I mean Bach, Beethoven, Mozart etc.? What is your favorite orchestral piece? Do you know there are other non-western orchestras around the world? This and many more questions are what the Grade 7 MYP music class is trying to find answers to through their research, project works, compositions, and performances.

The term orchestra was derived from the Greek word ὀρχήστρα (orchestra) the area in front of a stage reserved for the Greek chorus. With time, the term became a household name for the people who perform in a large instrumental ensemble. Now it has become a term for the different combinations of instruments. An orchestra, as defined by Kamien (2000) is a large instrumental ensemble typical of western art music, fusing instruments from different families categorized as woodwinds, brass, percussion, and strings. In non-western cultures, orchestral instruments may be categorized under membranophones (drums), chordophones (strings), aerophones (air blown), and idiophones (self-sounding).

In the western classical orchestra, the biggest family is the strings. It consists of the violin, the viola, the cello, the double bass and the harp. There are two parts of the violins played in the orchestra and they are the 1st Violins and the 2nd Violins.

- **Phoebe Osei**

The class embarked on a field trip to the Ghana Police central band and the Ghana National Symphony orchestra to witness their rehearsal sessions and also interact with the musicians. Indeed it was an awesome experience as some students saw some instruments for the first time and had one-on-one interaction with the instrumentalists.

### Students' reflections

During the first semester of my music class, we were taken through a series of topics. Two of them were stomp and the orchestra. I think between those two I prefer the orchestra because it made us learn more about instruments, their histories and how to play them. On Thursday, morning 30 November, 2017, my grade mates and I, accompanied with some teachers embarked on a trip to the Ghana police band for an orchestra lesson. When we entered the room the first thing we saw was that the people in the orchestra were in a horse-shoe formation. The band master spoke a little about how the band was formed. The National Symphony Orchestra was just as rewarding to see as the police band. The first performance was the strings instruments and the second performance was altogether. All I can say is that, the day was very interesting and I had a lot of fun, and I am hoping to go on another trip.

- **Bellina Anthonio**

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On Thursday 30 November, 2017, Grade 7 students embarked on a trip to the Ghana Police Band and The Ghana National Symphony Orchestra.

The trip was very educational because it taught us about the different types of instruments and types of orchestras and the types of instruments in those different orchestras.

On the way, we had a lot of fun. We sang songs and laughed a lot.

- **Nuku Dzakuma**

Watch out for the class orchestral performance to be assessed with MYP criteria B



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