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### TIS BULLETIN: 13 APRIL, 2018

### **Thought for the Week**

Action expresses priorities. - Mahatma Gandhi

### Calendar

13/4/18: Girls United Girls' Talk (7.00-9.00pm)
14/4/18: ACT; U16 Football Carnival; Amnesty Club Interaction Session with Nana Oye Lithur (2.00-4.00pm);
15/4/18: Main audition for 'Beauty and the Beast'
20/2/18: Chapter 1: The Launch (7.00pm; MPH)
22/4/18: TIS Exam Candidates' Service (11.00am); Visiting Sunday (1.00-5.00pm).
27/4/18: DP Exams commence
28/4/18: ISSAG Athletics Championships (Accra)
1/5/18: Rotary Debate: TIS & SOS (MPH: 10.00am)
2/5/18: IGCSE Exams commence
5/5/18: SAT
10/5/18: EE Café for G11
18/5/18: DP Exams conclude
20/5/18: G12 Trip departs

### **Making US Proud**

Next Friday, 20 April, the editorial board of the school magazine is hosting an event to launch the name of the school magazine. The event is entitled, "Chapter 1: The Launch". The event will be filled with a variety of performances, the sale of refreshments, a surprise guest speaker, the school will be introduced to the official editorial board and most importantly, the name of the magazine shall be revealed.

20 April. 7:00 pm. MPH.

Make sure to be there and remember to purchase a copy of the magazine when it comes out.

Follow us

- Ohene Kofi Sakyi-Addo (Editor of the 2018 TIS Magazine)



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### Reminders

- Please read school communications.
- TIS Events: Parents are always welcome to attend any school event.

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

• *Student Medication*: Any student medication must be sent to the Infirmary, along with medication instructions.

• *ManageBac (MB):* An online guide for parents to MB can be found at: <u>https://managebac.screenstepslive.com/s/support/m/3621</u>

• *Email Hassles*: It will greatly assist us in resolving these issues if you can email any 'bounced' messages to: <u>principal@tis.edu.gh</u> If this address is part of the problem, then please resend to <u>kdarvall@gmail.com</u>

### **Final Lap**

It was great to see the happy and safe return of students after the mid-semester break. There are now about 7-8 weeks until the end of semester, and being TIS, there is much to do within this time.

For our exam students in G10 and G12, they are now reaching the business end of their programs with examinations commencing in two weeks. Focus, consistency, determination and balance are the key attributes that are their priorities now. Focus requires no distractions. Consistency means they are making every minute count. Determination will ensure personal best results as they taper their revision study plans. Balance will ensure students do not stress out due to sleep deprivation, poor eating habits, or resulting health issues.

Our non-examination students have many projects to complete before Achievers' and Graduation Day on 2 June.

### **TIS Re-registration**

In order to ensure the accuracy of our student numbers for 2018/2019, parents should have received an email on 23 March to complete the re-registration of their child/children by 30 April. To confirm enrolment for next year, parents will be required to complete basic contact















data to ensure your current data on MB is accurate. Please use the specific link provided in the email.

You will enter this data on OpenApply (OA) which is MB's younger sibling. It is userfriendly, however, if you have any issues, please contact Bijoux or myself.

To date, only 25% of parents have completed the task. Your cooperation and timeliness will always be appreciated.

### **Exam Candidates Service/Visiting Sunday**

There will be an exam candidates' service on Sunday, 22 April, commencing at 11.00am. It will conclude by 1.00pm.

To coincide with the exam candidates' service, there will be Visiting Sunday from 1.00-5.00pm on the same day. Please note that there will be no entry after 4.00pm.

### New 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.

What sort of questions are asked in aptitude tests? The questions look at patterns, relationships, vocabulary and meaning. For example:

- Underline the word that has been misspelt in each sentence.
- Choose the missing word in this sentence from the list.
- What is the next number in this sequence?
- Comprehension questions for a reading passage.

You can't study for an aptitude test. However, you will enjoy it if you are a reader, and you enjoy maths and writing. Reports from the test will be available (at cost: GHC80) and identify particular strengths and areas for attention, as well as predicting the likely result for the student in MYP, IG and DP final exams.













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 30 April.

Detailed information about admission to TIS and the process can be found at: <u>https://tis.openapply.com</u>

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: <u>https://tis.openapply.com/parents/sign\_in</u>

They can set their password by clicking 'Forgot Password?': <u>https://tis.openapply.com/parents/password/new</u>

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

For reference, OpenApply also has further information on linking siblings and merging parents at the following link: https://help.openapply.com/help?lesson\_id=570655&manual\_id=6960

### Duke of Edinburgh International Award (DoEIA)

I thank those parents who completed paper registrations for the DoEIA. Having moved to the DoEIA online record book, most students have completed the online registration. As the same details are required for each registration, TIS will cease with the paper duplication and only use online registration from now.

For those who still want to participate, what you need to do is:

- 1. Pay Miss Abigail (CASSA Office) the program fee (Bronze GHC50; Silver GHC60; Gold GHC 70)
- 2. The parent emails Dr Ken (<u>principal@tis.edu.gh</u>) with their consent for their son/daughter to be involved in the program. [I consent to .....(student's name) participating in the Duke of Edinburgh International Award.)
- 3. The student registers and then completes the online registration form (www.onlinerecordbook.org )

Program payments must be completed by students by 22 April, 2018. No further applications will be taken after this date until 1/9/18.

I appreciate your support.

Dr. Ken Darvall Principal















Please have the following documents available (scan onto a flash drive) before you begin with online application;

- 1 recent passport picture
- passport biodata page/ birth certificate
- 3 recent school reports (Grade 7-9 Applicants)
- Letter of recommendation and academic transcripts (Grade 11 Applicants)
- 1. Go to our admissions portal tis.openapply.com
- 2. Click on the Sign In button found at the top right corner of the page
- Click on Sign up here if this is your first time using OpenApply otherwise type in the email and password you used the last time you used OpenApply.

#### For first time users please proceed to 4. For existing users please proceed to 5.

- 4. Fill in User Details and proceed to application.
- 5. Ensure you fill out details correctly and attach all required documents where necessary (passport picture,
- passport biodata page/ birth certificate, school reports, transcript, recommendation). 6. When forms have been completed kindly proceed to make application fee payment using any of the 3 op
  - tions: • www.expresspaygh.com/tis
  - At the Finance Office on TIS campus
  - At any Barclays Bank into the TIS Account number 1798808 or Ecobank into TIS Account number: 0020014471692201
- 7. You will receive an email to confirm receipt of your application and the next steps towards admission **only** when the application fee payment has been received.
- Please note that your child will be taking a Cognitive Ability Test (CAT4) as an Entrance Exam for admission at TIS.

Thank you for choosing TIS. We look forward to a fantastic relationship in the coming years!











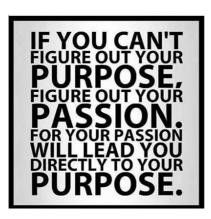


### **MYP** Corner

### Real teaching starts where textbooks end

Throughout my years as an educationalist, the above is what I always wanted to get across to colleagues and later on the teachers I had to train. Textbooks are tools and just one resource for teaching. More important for both students and teachers is what is not to be found in textbooks, but comes back to what the teachers know, practise and love. The following link <u>http://map.mathshell.org/tasks.php</u> will get you to a 2015 article in the IB World Magazine, written by *Michael Vergien, English A: literature teacher, Coppell High School, Texas, USA*.

Based on the question what *authentic learning* exactly is, he refers back to himself as a teacher in the first place, instead of directly turning to student learning. It is indeed what I have been saying all these years. You first of all have to practise what you preach (as it should be with everything in life) and share the love of your practices. Only when you are an expert in your field will you be able to radiate this passion and love to others and in case of being a teacher, to your students. Let's face it; teaching from a textbook is almost like being a chapter ahead of your students and working chapter by chapter towards the test.



The excitement and engagement that will lead to authentic teaching and learning will have to come from you as a teacher. Like the article states, "we must live, breathe, eat and sleep what we teach". I'm against lecturing if this is the only strategy being used in the classroom, but don't we all remember that particular teachers that we could listen to endlessly when he or she would talk with passion about their subject topics? These are the teachers that one recognizes in a school being the teachers that you should pamper and make sure they never leave.

Textbooks, testing and exams are just not the full preparation for our students' future anymore. The 21<sup>st</sup> century needs a change in education and there is hope where in many countries they realise this and change is happening. But whatever change there will be, even artificial intelligence will not be able to replace the passionate, loving, knowledgeable and experienced teacher that can make a change in a student's life.

### Ate Hemmes MYP Coordinator







### **ALAMAU in Words and Pictures**

### ALAMAU@5!

This year's ALAMAU trip was very exciting. The team arrived in South Africa on Sunday, 18 March, and got down to business straight away. We spent the first days at Gold Reef City in Johannesburg, an amusement park with lots of exciting rides and attractions. After a long day at the amusement park, we left for Sun City the next day. The first day at Sun City was calm and relaxed, but the following day we took the water park by storm. On our last day at Sun City, we took an early morning trip to Pilanesburg National Park where we encountered many of Africa's great beasts such as rhinos, elephants and zebras.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> day of our stay in South Africa, we headed to Indaba hotel, which was where all committee sessions took place, to register for the ALAMAU conference. The conference lasted from 21 - 25 March, 2018 with the topic, "**Foundations for a sustainable future**".

After the opening ceremony, there were three conference days allocated for debate on topics peculiar to each committee. Normally, committee sessions lasted between 4-6 hours. However, the first committee session lasted from 8am to 7:30pm which included the lunch break. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> days each were filled with insightful and fun-packed events to help release the stress of participating delegates.

Some of these exciting events were cultural night, Gala Dinner, diplomatic roundtable and Johannesburg exploration. The two most loved events of the students were the Gala Dinner and exploring Johannesburg. At the gala dinner the boys were smartly dressed in their suits and the girls were beautifully clothed in their long dresses as they danced the night away. We decided to visit the Cradle of Humankind which is one of eight world heritage sites in South Africa and renowned as the place where humankind originated.

At the closing ceremony, formal awards were presented to outstanding delegates and it was an honour to witness TIS receive **six formal awards** and **eight informal awards** which was an improvement on last year. By the time the closing ceremony ended, it was all tears as the students had made lasting bonds and memories with new found friends that they did not want to lose.

### **Student Reflections**

Best few days of my life, most memorable time spent with my friends and teachers, excellent opportunity to meet new people from all over the world. These are all descriptions under which the ALAMAU trip could fit perfectly. Right from the onset when we were lodged in a theme park hotel, we managed to break the ice between the teachers and the students, as well







as between the students. Switching between different hotels was an opportunity to explore Johannesburg and have an impeccable sightseeing experience. The ALAMAU conference itself at the Indaba hotel was very eye opening, as it exposed many problems faced in Africa and served as a platform on which I could assume the role of a change maker and provide some resolutions to our problems. This conference improved my public speaking skills, confidence, as well as my ability to think critically and is certainly a trip which I would like to repeat! **~Maurice Quartey** 

One of the most memorable times I have had since I came to TIS was this ALAMAU trip. This trip was full of laughter, smiles, fun and, above all, was very educative! I met new people who were so influential that, I am not keen on losing contact with them. Most importantly, I got to learn a lot about Africa and the problems we face today, as well as propose feasible solutions to these problems. Apart from the educative conference, I also had fun with my grade mates which I will never forget. It was a great experience and I wish I could have this all over again!

### ~Natasha Tetteh

ALAMAU was a great experience. Not only was it a fun filled week with a lot of activities, but it was a great learning opportunity. As we tackled some of Africa's problems, we stimulated a lot of methods and action plans to come up with suitable solutions to these problems. We also got to meet new people and form possible connections to some of Africa's future leaders. We got to explore the day-in-the-life of active pan Africanists. Through this experience, my desire and dedication to build up my country's economy, as well as improving Africa as a whole has grown vastly. I encourage the upcoming Grade 11s to embark on this journey as they will find themselves enlightened on the issues facing Africa. **~Ashley Cooper** 

ALAMAU is without a doubt the best school trip I have ever attended. Before the conference, we were privileged to stay in three different hotels (all with amazing food) and had a chance to go the water and theme park, as well as go for a Safari. The Conference in itself was enlightening. I got to network with intelligent people from all over Africa after we shared our intellect on the motions raised during the moderated caucus. In addition, the ALAMAU organized an event known as Cultural Night which personally was the highlight of the entire trip because we were entertained with an incredible skit and comedy, dance and magic performances. I encourage everyone to sign up for ALAMAU next year!

#### ~Abena Amo

ALAMAU 2018 was quite an interesting experience for me as it provided the chance for me to do something different. From the flight to South Africa to the waterpark to the Conference, this trip allowed me to try something new. First of all, this was my first time ever going to South Africa, so I got to experience a whole different atmosphere than what I am used to. This was also my first time ever going to an amusement park and a water park which are















some of the best moments I have ever experienced. Then the most important part, the conference itself. With people from all around Africa representing their countries, it was a great opportunity to meet and interact with new people, as well as improve my public speaking skills. Hopefully, I will be able to enjoy such an amazing experience soon. ~Hannibal Richter- Addo

























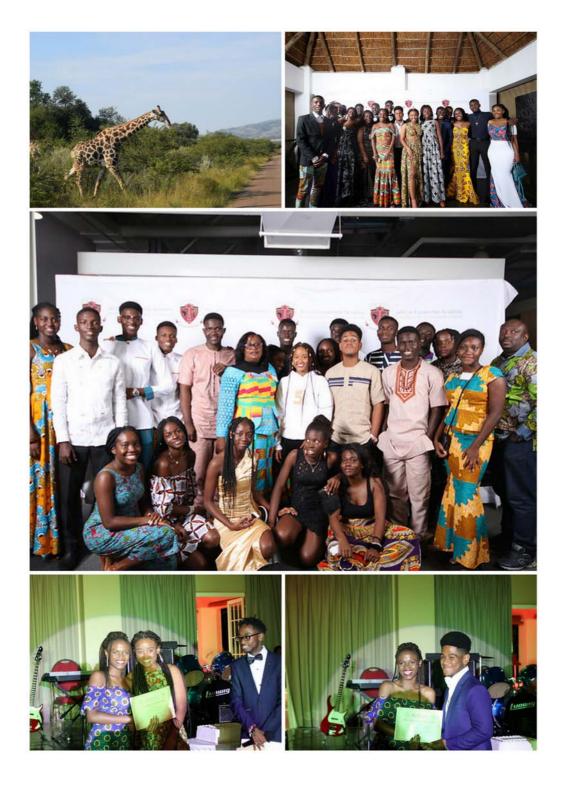












































### **Counsellor's Corner**

*Trust in yourself- DP2s & Grade 10s! The power lies in your intellect. Give your best. Yes, you can!* 

**B**rag **R**ights

As the hearts and minds of our students abide in harmony at TIS, the learning culture is perfectly set. Our DP2s have persevered and have gained some more exciting admissions offers! Kudos guys well done! **DP2s**, please

**do not get complacent!** Maintain the momentum and work diligently at your academics till the very end so you can achieve your best in the final IBDP Examinations! Yes you can! Focus, focus focus!!!

To add to our list of students' university offers, we have:



- University of Toronto, Canada
- University of British Columbia (UBC), Canada
- Mount Holyoke College, USA
- Goucher University, USA
- Babson College, USA
- University of Kentucky, USA
- Bentley University, USA
- Penn State University, USA
- Drexel University, USA
- Temple University, USA
- Concordia College, USA
- Pace University, USA
- Hartwick College, USA
- University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, USA
- Ringling College of Art and Design, USA
- The American University of Paris, France
- University of Dundee, UK















### College Highlights: CIS College & University Fair

The CIS College & University Fair came off on Thursday, 12 April 2018 @ the TIS Sports Complex. Twenty university representatives engaged our DP1 students and shared amazing higher education opportunities with them. It was energy-packed, fun-filled and inspiring! The admissions reps. complimented our students for their brilliant questions and comportment! © Don't miss out on the update in our next bulletin!



### Reminder on Test Dates for the Academic Year (2018). Sat 2017-2018 Act

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



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Sat Subject Test Only \* & Regular Sat Only \*\*

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

### **Please Note**

- ACT April exam registrations are now closed. Test takers are to note that the valid unexpired passport is the only acceptable form of identification for this exam.
- SAT May registrations are also closed.
   Students are urged to prepare assiduously for these tests.
   Practice tests and study materials are available on Naviance and on the official websites: www.collegeboard.org and www.act.org



Date	School / Institution	Time	Venue	
7/May/2018	Scottish University Fair	2:40pm	Beneath New CAS Block	
Devente And Walson To Attack All Collins - Exima & Visite To Most Advissions Dans I				

Parents Are Welcome To Attend All College Fairs & Visits To Meet Admissions Reps.!

### **DP1 Parents One-on-One Meetings with College Guides (College**

### **Application Process)**

DP1 Parent one-on-one meetings are ongoing. Emails have been sent out inviting DP1 parents for the one-on-one meetings, to discuss their children's college applications; parents are encouraged to sign up by responding promptly.















### **Debate Society Updates**

### **'BATTLE OF FACTIONS'**

For several years, TIS has had its own Debaters Society. However, aside from the annual Speaker of the Year Contest, which is more focused on public speaking than debating, it was like a jewel hidden from public view. As a forerunner to the TIS exciting 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, however, the society held its first public Inter-faction debate two days ago. The debate was between the two factions of the society, the astute Originals and the glorious Olympus. For the purpose of this debate, three representatives from each of these two factions were selected to debate the motion, "This house believes that decisions about legalisation, banning or limiting substances, including but not limited to tobacco and alcohol, should be left to a panel of experts rather than elected representatives." using the World School's Debate Format. For over an hour, members of the society demonstrated to the school community that its members were definitely on a different level in relation to the rest of the student body in terms of their oratorical prowess. There was never a dull moment for the audience with the constant smart rebuttals and brutal points of information that are characteristic of the WSD format. By the end of the debate, it was obvious that we are a School of Sharks, just as our slogan indicates. It was not just about winning an argument, but also about seeking the truth and gaining knowledge. We are grateful to management, staff and all members of the TIS family who helped to make this event successful. Also, to our distinguished panel of Judges, we are most grateful.

### **Best Speaker's Reflections**

"Please not me, not me, not me". Those were the words ringing in my head when Mr. Louis was choosing the participants for the debate, so imagine the dread I felt once my name was mentioned and I was also assigned the role of Team Captain. Later, however, when I found out who my team members were (Adoma and Kofi), my heart eased a little because in my opinion they were good debaters and I had also worked with them before. What I didn't anticipate was how hard it would be to do the actual research and speech planning. The day came and I must say the turn of events really took me by surprise. Finding out that I had been adjudged Best Speaker was definitely not the future I had seen for myself in this debate. It gave me a much needed confidence boost about my public speaking skills and I realised that I was indeed making progress from when I first joined the Debate Society. Congratulations to my team mates for their role in bringing the first ever BATTLE OF FACTIONS trophy to Originals.

Tiffany Agyarko















CONTRACTOR CAMBRIDGE International Examinations



























### **DP CAS Updates**

### Girls United – The Superwoman Cocktail



The leaders of Girls United club, Valerie Vigbedor and Asantewaa Ohene Kyei, wish to bring

all the girls under one roof to engage in activities, discuss issues facing teenage girls and be engaged in a talk lead by invited guests.

This event dubbed, "*The Superwoman Cocktail*", is scheduled to take place on tonight, 13 April, at 7:00 pm in the Handel Picasso Hall. The aim of this event is to encourage girls and empower them to be more resourceful and, above all, believe in themselves. The guest speaker for this event is *Mrs Abla Masoperh*, a TIS parent and a passionate advocate for young girls. We also have *Girl with a Purpose Foundation* who is involved with mentoring young girls and guiding them into finding their passions. There will be group sessions on the following topics: Self-worth & Self Doubt, Insecurities, Peer Pressure, Boy/Girl Relationships, Equity & Equality, led by a number of 'superwomen'.



This is a CAS project initiative uniting girls to make a difference.















**Grab your ticket now -** Rate is GHC 15.00 - See Christel, Asantewaa or Valerie Vigbedor (G 11).

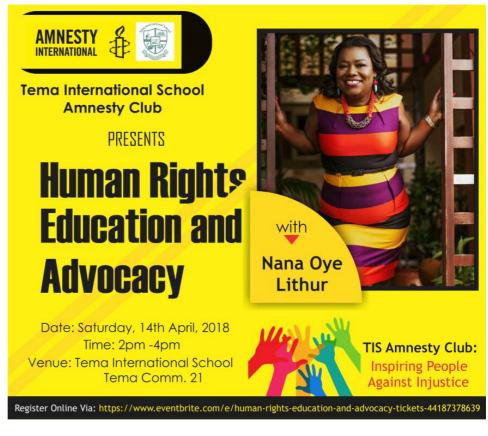
\*There will be refreshments and interaction with guests after the program.

It's going to be fun! No boys allowed!!!

### TIS Amnesty Club interacts with Nana Oye Lithur

The Amnesty Club of Tema International School, as part of its activities to promote human rights education and advocacy in schools, will be hosting Nana Oye Lithur, a renowned Human Rights Lawyer and Campaigner, and a former Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection.

The interaction will come off at the school's premises tomorrow, Saturday, 14 April 2018, from 2 pm to 4 pm. The



2-hour interaction will border on 'the role of school communities towards human rights education and advocacy'. This programme is opened to all students, teachers, and school administrators in and out of Tema International School.































### Earth Day and March for Science - Accra

This event is coming on: Saturday, 21 April, 2018 - from 10 am - 3:00 pm. Venue: Efia Beach Hotel. This year's theme is: 'Eradicating Plastic Pollution'.

The organisers of the event were amazed by the different projects displayed during our Science



Fair. On that note, TIS has been invited to participate in this event. We believe this is a great opportunity for TIS as a community to engage and take action. Eradication of plastic is a serious issue threatening our mother earth. We need to do something to solve this calamity in our community. "Act locally, think globally". This is our chance.

The areas in which our students can actively participate are:

 Advocacy/educational project to be shared and presented at the fair.
 Hands-on activities such as art and craft with recycle materials to engage the children from disadvantaged communities.
 Fundraiser to sponsor disadvantaged children to take part on this event.
 Marketing team

The Science and CAS / SA

teams are collaborating on this event. However, we call on the entire TIS community to come on board and take action. Plastic pollution is a serious issue affecting all of us. Let's be the change.















### Fundraiser Project: Purchase of an Incubator for Tema General Hospital

Since the inception of the club in January this year, members have been working hard towards the purchase of an incubator for the General Hospital. So far, there have been a number of activities that has successfully yielded funds towards the project, below is a breakdown of various events and total funds in hand.

Charter Night – GHC 19,082 + \$100 Chocolate Friendship Day – GHC 5,371 Expression 2018 – GHC 4,160 Tally Cards – GHC 830

Total GHC 29,443 - \$100

Furthermore, the leaders of the club have scheduled to meet with General Electronics this Friday, to pitch their idea in aim of soliciting for funds to support the purchase and a possibility of donating an incubator for the project. The club will continue with updates about progress in due time.

A huge thank you to the management of TIS and the entire TIS community for their support towards this project, we believe that we are better together.

Every Breaths counts!

Service above self.

















### April Special Assembly with Kafui Dey and Thelm Quaye



speech, she read five letters she wrote to her sixteen year's old self and I must say, it was very uplifting as she encouraged us to not let anxiety limit us and do whatever you set your mind to because you can achieve it, if you persevere. Kafui Dey on the other hand, encouraged the TIS community to always go a step further and never limit ourselves, but rather open our minds to always know more. All in all, I believe the soul stirring speeches of our invited guests truly achieved its purpose to motivate students to dream big! I extend all gratitude to the

As students, we sometimes may not feel good enough and may lose hope during the process of acquiring academic excellence. However, it is through educative talks that we get inspired to always push for success. The TIS Special Assembly is an opportunity for students to be inspired by respected leaders in the society who are experienced in their fields. On Wednesday, the TIS community was blessed to have in our midst Kafui Dey, a well known journalist in Ghana, and Thelma Quaye, a telecom engineer. During Thelma Quaye's



organizers of this assembly and look forward to more of these during the course of the academic year. - Ewuradwoa Otuwa Dabanka G11



Wednesday was sensational! I was lucky to be the MC, along with Valerie, and it was 'the experience'. We were privileged to meet Mrs Thelma Quaye and Mr.Kafui Dey who shared their personal moments with us. Mrs.Thelma Quaye mentioned something which truly resonated with me. "Do not dwell on your anxiety". Mr Kafui also explained just how powerful the school's motto is by giving accounts of his father's life. As students, we get overwhelmed by the pressure to excel and

tend to forget we're all still young. These special assemblies not only educate, but also inspire, motivate and encourage. Thank you so much, TIS for all the moments. Sedo SezanG11















I was a little skeptical about signing up to lead the special assembly but I have not regretted this decision. I was excited to read about Thelma who was a female engineer and her story was very inspiring. I was also really looking forward to meeting the famous Kafui Dey. Rehearsing for the special assembly was a nervy one. I was encouraging Sedo not to get nervous and I was not even taking my own advice. Luckily, the assembly was a SPECIAL one indeed, and I loved the experience! I would do it again and again. Valerie Larbi G11



























