## WEEKLY BULLETIN

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#### At TIS,

we believe balance, by maximising opportunities and experiences to enhance learning and challenge oneself, inside and outside the classroom, is the key to success.

#### COVID-19

• Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, before and after eating, and after going to the washroom.

Dry your hands thoroughly or the advantage of washing your hands is lost.

• Cover your cough and sneeze, dispose of tissues, and use alcohol-based hand sanitisers.

• Practise social distancing at all times.

#### Thought for the Week

There is nothing wrong with striving to be the best, fastest, richest or smartest, but remember that your story doesn't have to end there.

- Dr Tommy Weir



### Virtual Reality

My hopes to see students at school this or next week have been dashed. With increasing cases in Ghana, the decision to keep schools closed is the correct one. However, I do expect to see the new academic year commence in late August (19 for Newbies and 22 for continuing students) under normal conditions.

In a message on MB to our IB Class of 2020 on 4 April, I encouraged G12 students to think about how you can retain a focus until university commences in August/September.

I had mentioned previously about doing an online course in an area of interest. One source is:

Free courses for high school students https://www.coursera.org/promo...

I also attached Immerse publications about top books to read if they were interested in a whole range of specific



#### Tema International School

Do the right thing, even when no one is watching.

It's called integrity.

#### **Making Us Proud**

- Ethan Sunkwa-Mills: He has consistently made thoughtful and meaningful contributions during Guidance Lessons throughout this academic year and deserves notable mention. His submissions are always inspiring and it is commendable how seriously he takes Guidance lessons and follows up with good questions as an inquirer. The College Guides are very proud of him. (See last week' s Bulletin for an example.)
- Shika Tay, Paa Kow Oppan, Abena Sampong and Sefakor Edze for their reflections on online learning (last week' s Bulletin).

• Lexi Forson, Roman Agyeman and Shirley Ahashie for their PHE reflections (and suggestions to all us us on how to maintain or improve fitness at home.

- Araba Egyei-Mensah, Hedia Dickson, Kevin Cudjoe, Lyman Cisse and Awurabena Ahenkorah for their language acquisition reflections in last week' s Bulletin.
- Salma Roland, our popular Quarantine Buddy.

#### courses at university.

I congratulate students in all other grades from Kinder I to Grade II for their efforts to continue their learning remotely. Unfortunately, some students are kidding themselves and their parents by inferring there are no lessons or tasks to complete. Not to complete means to repeat.

Please Page 30 of this Bulletin for instructions to collect personal belongings from the hostels and/or removal from the TIS domain remotely.

#### School Fees Discount (Secondary School)

With to the closure of TIS due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Management has decided to discount/reduce the boarding/ feeding fees by GH8000 for the current semester for each student not onsite. This discount will be reflected in next semester's bill in August 2020 which will be mailed to you in due course. For final year students who have already paid in full, this discount will be reimbursed by August 2020. Please contact Mr Kobina Quansah if you require clarification. [E: kquansah@tis.edu.gh; M: 0244657821] This is also an opportunity to remind parents with outstanding fees to endeavour to settle their account.

Stay healthy.

Dr Ken Darvall

Principal





Early Years

Kinder 1 (3-4 years) Kinder 2 (4-5 years) Kinder 3 (5-6 years)

#### Entry Points in 2020

Junior Primary

Grade 1 (5.5 - 7years) Grade 2 (6.5 - 8 years) Grade 3 (7.5 – 9 years) Senior Primary

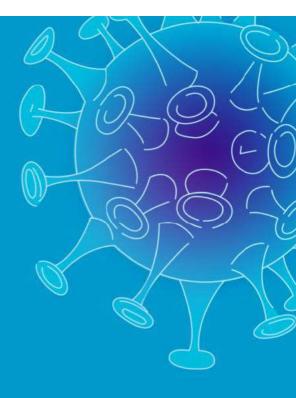
Grade 4 (8.5 -10 years) Grade 5 (9.5 years-11 years) Grade 6 (10.5 - 12 years)

All admission applications will be online via Open Apply: <u>https://tis.openapply.com</u>

A social readiness screening will be required, as part of the admission process, along with a compulsory interview with parents.

TIS is an IB World School, authorised to offer MYP and DP. The Primary School campus has been approved as a Candidate PYP School.

Be INFORMED Be PREPARED Be SMART Be SAFE



# Be READY to fight #COVID19

For the latest health advice, go to: www.who.int/COVID-19



UNITED NATIONS



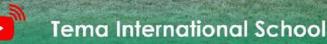
Guest Speaker: Dr. Conrad Hughes

Principal at the International School of Geneva, Switzerland.





### IB CLASS OF 2020 VIRTUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY 6 JUNE, 2020 10:00AM





TISGhana

Youtube

#### **PYP CORNER**



#### **Learning Is Exciting!**

Twenty-first century (21c) students are active learners, rather than observers. They are natural investigators, researchers and processors of information, owing to their extensive exposure to digital and mobile technologies. They view themselves as co-constructors of knowledge and creators of new ideas. When these dispositions are well harnessed in the classroom, they can be used to support independent and inquiry-based learning, as well as the development of essential skills. This is because by dovetailing learning engagements with the interests and needs of learners, the latter are motivated to participate in class activities, engaging more effectively with the course material. This high level of participation results in deep thinking and processing, which ultimately leads to the acquisition and application of knowledge, and the development of communication, critical thinking, problem-solving and other lifelong learning skills.

This is the TIS teaching approach, whether face-to-face, or virtual!

Below, our Grades 1 to 5 Online Learning Champions share with us their most exciting projects since online learning commenced.

### **LEARNING CHAMPION**

Nana Akua Nyameye Addae, Grade 1 Favourite Task: Food Production Process

My favourite task was the one on production. I had to create a product and sell it to my family. I had to use some of my Mummy's ingredients to make bread. What I loved about this task was that we got to choose what we wanted to make. And it was fun for me because when I choose projects, it is more enjoyable and it gives me time to imagine what I want.

From this project, I learnt that you can produce goods that factories make, but in your own way.



### **LEARNING CHAMPION**

#### Emmanuel Tawiah Osroagbo, Grade 2

#### **Favourite Task: Step Dancing**

My most exciting project was about Step Dancing. In order to complete the task, I had to make time to do the work. What I love about the work was that I was dancing. From this assignment, I learnt about teamwork and working together with others to make a better team.





#### Sedinam Mills Kudah, Grade 2 Favourite Task: Step Dancing

My favourite task was about Step Dance. I had to watch a video on Step Dance. Next, I had to practise the Step Dance. Also, I had to answer some questions. Finally, I had to take a video and submit it. I love the moves I learnt from the Step Dance. I learnt that practice makes perfect.





#### Kwasi Ayisi, Grade 3 Favourite Task: Poetic Devices

*My favourite task was on poetry. I completed it by researching all the questions about similes and metaphors, and answering them. I loved that I finished it early and did not submit it at 5:00 pm. From this task, I learnt that poetry can tell us about a story.* 

1. <u>A metaphor</u> is a figure of speech that describes an object or action in a way that isn't literally true, but helps explain an idea or make a comparison. ... A metaphor states that one thing is another thing. It equates those two things not because they are the same, but for the sake of comparison or symbolism.

2. <u>A simile</u> is a figure of speech that directly compares two different things. The simile is usually in a phrase that begins with the words "as" or "like." This is different from a metaphor, which is also a comparison but one says something is something else.

3. There are three dominant kinds of poetry: narrative, dramatic and lyrical. It is not always possible to distinguish between them. For example, an epic poem can contain lyrical passages, or a lyrical poem can contain narrative parts. Is the poetry which tells a <u>story</u>.

### **LEARNING CHAMPION**

Nana Adwoa Ayeyi Addae, Grade 3 Favourite Task: Twi Poster on Coronavirus

My most interesting task was in Twi. I had to make a poster on coronavirus. First, I had to make six spaces and I drew six pictures. What I loved about this task was that it was all about Twi. I learnt that you can show warnings in any language.

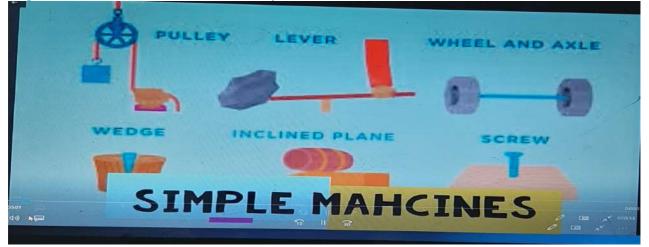


## **LEARNING CHAMPION**

#### Elikem Amoo, Grade 3

#### **Favourite Task: 10 Simple Inventions**

My project was about simple inventions and how they help to make work easier. I researched on the net for simple inventions and managed to put together information on simple inventions. The task enabled me to gain knowledge about how simple inventions help to make work easier for human beings. I learned how simple inventions can be used to make our daily lives easier.



### **LEARNING CHAMPION**

#### Kwabena Osei-Ababio, Grade 4

#### Favourite Task: Video on Ecosystems

The most interesting class work I have done since online classes started is the ecosystem. An ecosystem is a biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment. There are five ecosystems and they are; Tundra, Freshwater, Marine, Desert and Grassland ecosystems. The two main ecosystems are Terrestrial and Aquatic.

What I did to complete this work was to research, find the information needed, then use it to create something like a video, website or Powerpoint presentation.

What I loved about this task is that I learned how the ecosystem can be a small size or a big one. Ecosystems come in many sizes and can be a biome. A biome is a community of plants.

What I learnt about this activity is that the ecosystem is important to us because it provides a habitat to wild plants and animals. It supports different food chains and food webs. It regulates essential ecological processes and supports lives involved in the recycling of nutrients between biotic and abiotic components.

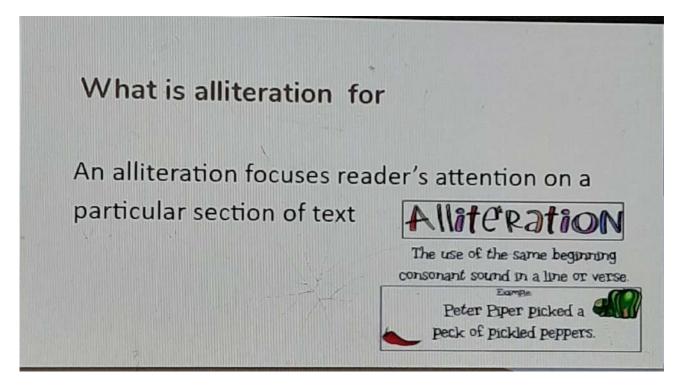




#### Kwaku Ayisi, Grade 4

#### **Favourite Task: Research on Poetic Elements**

The task was on Poetry. I had to research on alliteration to complete the work. What I loved about the task was the research. I learnt more about poems than I have ever known, thanks to this task.

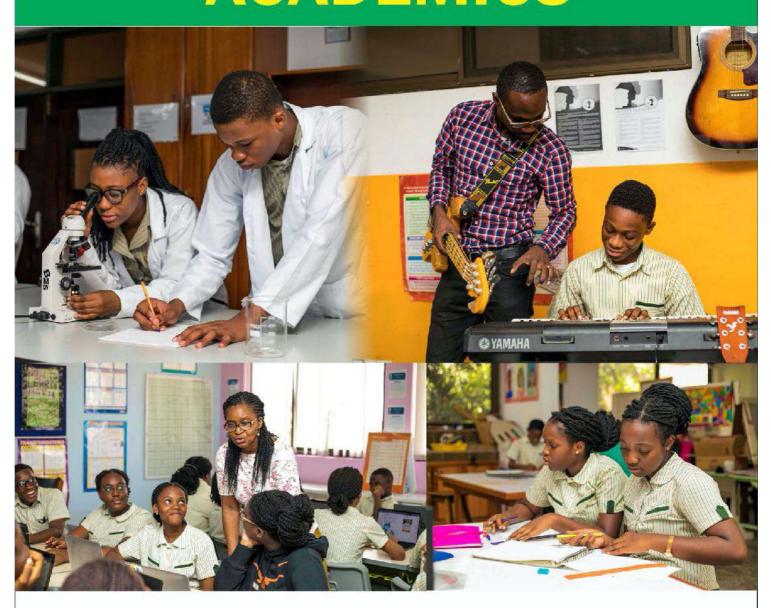


### **LEARNING CHAMPION**

#### John Israel Opeku, Grade 5 Favourite Task: Fingerspelling

My most interesting class task was about finger spelling some words in our Unit. To complete it, I had to go to a savvy dictionary so I can see how they finger spell. I like to finger spell because my teacher taught me how to finger spell and it is fun!





At TIS, we believe that the academics, as one of the four pillars for student balance and ensuing success, provide a theoretical lens for inquiry, critical thinking and conceptual understanding, as well as the opportunity to demonstrate our knowledge and understanding across many areas of learning.



#### EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD

# PLEASE NOTE

Tema International School is **CLOSED** until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

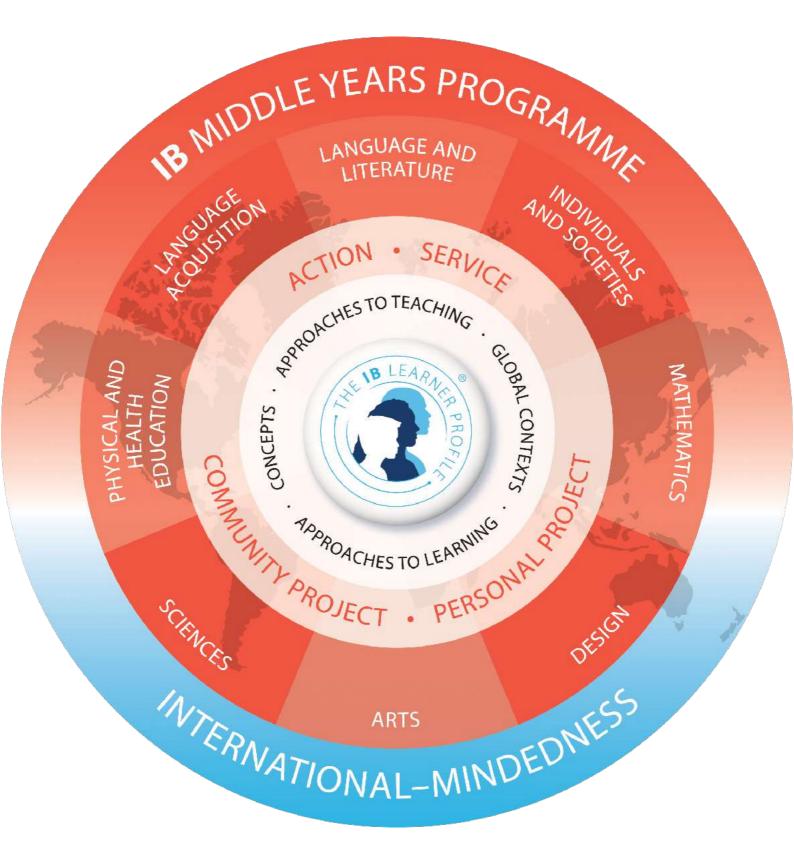
**Deliveries should be handed to security at the Promise Street entrance.** 

To make contact with TIS during this period of closure, please email: info@tis.edu.gh

We apologise for any inconvenience.

Stay healthy by observing all recommended health practices.

**TIS Management** 



#### The More Things Change, The More They Stay The Same

As I walk around the TIS main campus, I think to myself how quickly things can change. A couple of months ago, no teachers here at TIS would have imagined let alone planned to become educators in a virtual world. Yet, here we are. Tema International virtual School. The siren has fallen silent, no one is rushing off to a lesson, school as we knew it is now a virtual structure.

Having a virtual school does not mean there is no school; on the contrary, the virtual school has kept alive as much of the structure of the physical school day as it can. We have our weekly assemblies, we have our timetabled lessons and we have some after school activities and clubs. Life goes on. Our virtual school has full teacher participation and support, a complete curriculum of planned lessons. Lessons start at 8:30am after students have had their breakfast and end at 4pm. A difference between being at school and attending virtual school, is the strength of the ATL, Self-Management. Students are expected to be up, dressed, fed and ready for lessons on their own, especially if parents and guardians have to rush off to work. At times, students must remind themselves of their self-management to help us keep the virtual school running.

The attendance register is marked and teachers worry over every student who misses a lesson. Is the student well? How long are they going to be away from lessons? Just as with boarding school, teachers expect that someone will provide a valid reason why students will be absent from lessons – at this point, home/school links have to work even better than before.

Parents and guardians can prepare teachers for absences by sending messages to the school, but this can only be done if they know what timetable their wards are following. We are lucky to have all the information parents could want in one place i.e. ManageBac, our school information management system. It has always allowed remote access to the teaching and learning of our students, and this is not a new development like our virtual school. Parents can receive emails, school notices to their wards, they can check attendance and progress in any subject. In our virtual school, parents can continue to check attendance as long as a password to access this information has been given to them.

Students are aware that the school structure they left behind when they went home still exists in the virtual school and that lessons are on-going for Grades 7-11 without exception. They should keep to a routine that allows them to be ready for their lessons during the day. Once in lessons, students should be visible by video or by interacting with their teachers when spoken to in order to be recognised as present by their teachers. All essential agreements between themselves, their teachers and their peers still hold.

Parents who would like to support their wards may visits this website for more help with navigating ManageBac.

#### https://managebac.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360019111251-Navigating-ManageBac-as-a-Parent

Students may share their timetables with other family members: and parents may find out more about viewing the timetables of their wards by visiting this website below.

https://managebac.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360019111451-Viewing-Your-Child-s-Weekly-<u>Timetables</u>

If you need assistance in accessing ManageBac, please email the Principal: principal@tis.edu.gh

Yvonne Tagoe MYP Coordinator

#### **CREATIVE EXPRESSION**

This week, we feature the work of one of the many promising writers on campus. Sit back and enjoy a good read.

This creative piece is one of the many texts MYP4 students produced in a project in the Language and Literature class this semester. The students read articles and watched videos as stimulus materials after which they were tasked to produce original works to address a social problem for a target audience.

#### <u>Status Quo</u>

#### By Annalisa Boahen, MYP 4

Hey, I'm Catherine. I'm fourteen and I live with my parents and my little sister, Nora. I'm not that typical pretty black girl with long hair, gorgeous eyes, and beautiful black clear skin. I don't have the curves and I'm definitely NOT "sexy". You can say I'm pretty classic. Boring. I also have this basic lifestyle. I live: I wake up, go to school, get home, work on assignments, eat, watch TV, and sleep. You can see my appearance isn't the only boring thing. I guess I have to manage the way I look because there isn't much I can do about it.

I woke up today and got ready for school. I looked at my reflection in the mirror and sighed. "You look so weird", I said to myself. I tried to adjust my uniform to add some face curves to my body but I knew I couldn't fool anyone. I continued staring at my reflection and a tear leaked from my eye. I suddenly remembered what happened to me yesterday during lunch. "Ew! What happened to your face?!" A girl named Stacy said to me. "It looks like you woke up on dirt this morning!" I was used to being ignored and neglected. Yes, I was used to that. I mean, no one would want to be caught dead with someone half as bad looking as me. But, I didn't expect someone to call me out like that. I stopped eating and exited the cafeteria. I couldn't bear the embarrassment. I felt as if the whole place was laughing at me. Oops, I remembered I had to rush out for school.

I cleaned my face with a tissue and grabbed my bag. I walked down the stairs to eat breakfast. I saw my mom and sister by the dining table and asked, "Mom, do you think I'm pretty?" She stopped what she was doing and looked at me. "Of course I do! Why, do you think I think otherwise?" "Oh no." I replied, "Just asking". I said bye to my family and took my breakfast to go since the bus was waiting. Many questions raced through my mind. I had a hard time keeping them together. "Does my mother think I'm pretty or is she just saying that to make me happy?" "What does everyone think of me?" "Do they think I'm pretty to the extent that they're jealous and wouldn't involve themselves with me?" Probably not. I entered the bus and everyone kept quiet and stared at me. "Ok, I understand that I could look better, but really, do they have to make me feel like trash?" I almost shouted. I sat at the corner of my seat and stared out of the window.

The day passed by in a blur and before I knew it I was at home watching TV. I had finished my homework so I was very bored. I transitioned to watching YouTube videos on my laptop. I watched a gorgeous black You Tuber and loved everything she did. She was who I wanted to

become. Or even better, look like. She made a video called, "Am I pretty?" The video got a lot of views and as I was reading the comments, I couldn't help but feel happy for her. People were saying that she was beautiful, hot, and sexy and many words that no one has EVER said to me. Wow! She was LOVED. 'If only I could receive these compliments...', I said to myself. 'WAIT! I can! I can make one of these videos!!'', I exclaimed. "People will finally see me for me, right?' At that moment, I didn't care about anything else. All I wanted was to feel pretty.

I cleaned up my room and set up the camera. I stole some of my mom's makeup and used it to make me look better. I practised smiling and looking cute in the mirror and recorded the video. "Hi everyone! I'm not a typical You Tuber but I decided to make a video to ask a very important question..." I then flaunted and tried to look sexy. "Am I pretty?" Then I winked. I didn't know what else to say so I ended the video. I watched it and thought it was OK, so I posted it on YouTube.

A few days passed and there were only two views. They didn't even comment on my video so I lost all hope and didn't go on YouTube for about two weeks. Out of boredom, I opened the website again and I was surprised about the number of views and comments I got. I looked at the likes and dislikes and became disappointed immediately. "I had 300 dislikes and only 3 likes?", I screamed. "Wow". I didn't want to feel bad just because of that so I decided to check the comments to see what they said. I read the first one out loud. I read, "Kill yourself". "Jeezzzzzzz! That's harsh". I continued reading the comments. "You're a human train wreck, get off YouTube". "Should that even be a question?" "You are so ugly, have you ever gotten a boyfriend before? If you did, then I'm sorry for him and what was he thinking???". Tears cascaded down my face. I shut my laptop with so much force that I may have cracked the screen, but I couldn't care less. I was so hurt! I felt so worthless and ugly.

I stormed out of my room and went straight into my mother's room. "How could you lie to me like that?!" I yelled into her room. Unfortunately, she wasn't there so I shouted for no reason. "What's going on?" My mom asked from downstairs. "How could you lie to me like that?" I yelled. I started to run down the stairs but I missed a step and fell. I kept on falling until I couldn't feel any part of my body. My mom screamed and rushed to my aid. My eyes started to close and everything went blank. I don't remember exactly what happened but I woke up in a hospital. I immediately started crying. "What have I done to myself?" I sobbed as I saw my parents and sister by my side. I realized I had broken a leg and an arm, but I was fine. Weeks passed and I started to feel better. My family was there to support me all the way and that made me so feel loved. My mom deleted the YouTube video I posted and made sure everyone who commented something bad got a very stern response. Yes, she did that herself. She asked me why I didn't mention anything to her. I was honest and told her how badly I needed social media approval to know I am pretty. I expected her to be angry. Instead, with eyes full of tears she gave me a warm hug. "Aww, how cute and lovely", I whispered. Tears continued to roll down my face as we both cried uncontrollably.



#### THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN DIPLOMA PROGRAMME ASSESSMENTS

Digital assessment is an area that has been explored within the IB through the eAssessments in the Middle Years Programme (MYP). It was in this regard, that TIS in the second semester of the 2018-2019 academic year introduced a digital assessment tool, AssessPrep (AP). It was to assist students to prepare for the eAssessments at the end of MYP. However, students (the digital natives) and colleague teachers alike were thrilled by the experience of undertaking assessments online and since then, AP has been one of the assessment tools used in TIS.

Assessment is a key aspect of an IB education. The use of digital assessments in these difficult times is therefore encouraged as a means to enhance students' learning. AssessPrep provides a good opportunity for students to be assessed remotely. Because it is a digital platform, it allows the use of media-rich resources, such as videos, audio, images and graph tools, matching and sorting tools, equation editor, etcetera, which enhance the assessment experience.



#### How does it Work?

AssessPrep is already integrated into ManageBac (our online learning management system) which means, students can log in without needing to create another user detail. It can work in both offline and online situations. The offline version is used for high-stake or summative assessments, such as tests and term exams. The online version, on the other hand, is recommended for formative assessments, such as homework, class exercises, quizzes, etcetera. Students do not require the internet to complete the offline assessments even though there is now the opportunity for live invigilation through video conferencing tools such as ZOOM, Meet, Microsoft teams, and others.

#### How do students set up and take the test?

• Search for AssessPrep: <u>https://www.assessprep.com/users/sign\_in</u>

A		ABOUT CONTACT
	Login using Email and Password	
	You need to sign in or sign up before continuing.  Email  Password	
	Sign In → or Sign In with @ ManageBac	
	G Google Microsoft	

- Sign in with ManageBac.
- Download and install the offline version. Constantly check for updates and install.
- Ensure that you have your student code (supplied to all students by close of day on Tuesday, 12 May, 2020), Access code, and Test ID before you start any assessments.
- Some assessments may require the use of headsets so get them on standby.
- During assessments, it is recommended that you connect your laptop chargers and close all browsers except for AP and ZOOM (in the case of live invigilation).

#### Supporting Students

To assist our G11 students to leverage the opportunities digital assessments via AssessPrep offers, virtual training was held on Tuesday, 12 May, 2020. Several questions on how to use AP for summative assessments including the end of semester eAssessments were answered by the team. Teachers have been advised to provide practice assessments on AP for students to familiarise themselves with the interface and to improve their typing skills. This is a learning curve for our G11 students, but certainly second nature to the rest of the students especially the experienced digital warr in MYP5. Therefore, the Principal during this week's virtual assembly reached out to the Grade 10 students to share their experiences and best practices with their friends in Grade 11.

Do not be surprised if the IB sooner or later, moves in the direction of eAssessments for the Diploma Programme as they have already conducted research to assess the viability of this option. Currently, there is the option of students taking Online DP courses via Pamoja (which is an online education company that provides online learning solutions) and already, a TIS student is studying DP Film using the online model, via Pamoja. The use of technology to drive education will see a surge post-COVID-19 if not already happening. Thus, all stakeholders must support our young people in this direction.

Ben Darko (DP Coordinator)



### TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

# SPORTS



At TIS, we believe that sport, as one of the four pillars for student balance and ensuing success, promotes teamwork, challenges personal best and emphasizes the importance of appreciating how to lose before knowing how to win.



EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD

### **BE A RESPONSIBLE DINER**

How to keep clean and carry on when you're dining



#### LANGUAGE ACQUISITION CORNER

#### **GROUP 2 – LANGUAGE ACQUISITION COURSE**

It is a requirement of the programme that students study at least one subject from Group 2.

The main emphasis of the modern language courses is on the acquisition and use of language in a range of contexts and for different purposes while, at the same time, promoting an understanding of another culture through the study of its language.

#### LANGUAGE B

#### **SPANISH B / FRENCH B**

Spanish B/French B is a language acquisition course designed for students with previous experience of the language. In the Spanish B/French B course, students further develop their ability to communicate through the study of language, themes and texts. In doing so, they also develop conceptual understandings of how language works, as appropriate to the level of the course.

At both levels of Spanish B/French B (SL and HL), students learn to communicate in the language in familiar and unfamiliar contexts. They describe situations, narrate events, make comparisons, explain problems, and state and support their personal opinions on a variety of topics relating to course content. **The study of two literary works originally written in the target language is required only at language B HL.** The distinction between Spanish B/French B SL and HL can also be seen in the level of competency the student is expected to develop in the receptive, productive and interactive skills.

The study of language requires careful attention to forms, structures, functions and conceptual understandings of language. Knowledge of vocabulary and grammar—the what of language—is reinforced and extended by understanding the why and how of language: audience, context, purpose, and meaning.

The recommended teaching time is 240 hours to complete HL courses and 150 hours to complete SL courses, as stated in the document General regulations: Diploma Programme (2016: 6, article 8.2).

#### LANGUAGE AB INITIO

#### **SPANISH AB INITIO / FRENCH AB INITIO**

### Spanish Ab Initio/French Ab Initio is a language learning program designed to be studied over two years by students with no prior experience of the target language, or for those students with very limited previous exposure. It should be noted that language ab initio is offered at SL only.

Because of the inherent difficulty of defining what constitutes "very limited exposure" to a language, it is not possible to list specific conditions such as the number of hours or the nature of previous language instruction; however, it is important to note that any student who is already able to understand and respond to spoken and written language on a range of common topics is not to be placed in language ab initio as this would not provide an appropriate academic challenge, nor is it fair for those students who are genuine beginners of the language.

The course is designed to provide students with basic communication skills. Students will discuss common topics, read and understand various types of written text, listen to and understand various types of spoken text, and write narrative compositions. Students will write in multiple formats with

attention to language, message and context. They will communicate orally in a variety of situations and listen to and understand a variety of spoken texts. Students will be introduced to the cultures of Spanish /French speaking countries, demonstrate an appreciation of the Spanish/French speaking world, and develop intercultural understanding.

#### **PRESCRIBED THEMES**

Five prescribed themes are common to the syllabuses of language B and language ab initio; the themes provide relevant contexts for study at all levels of language acquisition in the DP, and opportunities for students to communicate about matters of personal, local or national, and global interest.

The five prescribed themes are:

- Identities
- Experiences
- Human ingenuity
- Social organization
- Sharing the planet.

The themes allow students to compare the target language and culture(s) to other languages and cultures with which they are familiar. The themes also provide opportunities for students to make connections to other disciplinary areas in the DP.

SL	HL	Ab Initio	
External assessment (3 hours)	External assessment (3 h 30 mins)	External assessment (2 h 45 mins)	
Paper 1 (1 hour 15 minutes)	Paper 1 (1 hour 30 minutes)	Paper 1 (1 hour)	
Productive skills - writing (30 marks)	Productive skills - writing	Productive skills - writing (30 marks)	
One writing task of 250–400 words	(30 marks)	Two written tasks of 70–150 words	
from a choice of three, each from a	One writing task of 450–600 words	each from a choice of three tasks,	
different theme, choosing a text type	from a choice of three, each from a	choosing a text type for each task from	
from among those listed in the	different theme, choosing a text type	among those listed in the examination	
examination instructions.	from among those listed in the	instructions.	
Paper 2 (1 hour 45 minutes)	examination instructions.	Paper 2 (1 hour 45 minutes)	
Receptive skills—separate sections	Paper 2 (2 hours)	Receptive skills—separate sections for	
for listening and reading (65 marks)	Receptive skills—separate sections	listening and reading (65 marks)	
Listening comprehension	for listening and reading (65 marks)	Listening comprehension (45 minutes)	
(45 minutes) (25 marks)	Listening comprehension (1 hour)	(25 marks)	
Reading comprehension (1 hour)	(25 marks)	Reading comprehension (1 hour)	
(40 marks)	Reading comprehension (1 hour)	(40 marks)	
Comprehension exercises on three	(40 marks)	Comprehension exercises on three	
audio passages and three written texts,	Comprehension exercises on three	audio passages and three written texts,	
drawn from all five themes.	audio passages and three written	drawn from all five themes.	
	texts, drawn from all five themes.		
Internal assessment (externally	Internal assessment (externally	Internal assessment (externally	
moderated by IB)	moderated by IB)	moderated by IB)	
Individual oral assessment	Individual oral assessment	Individual oral assessment	
A conversation with the teacher,	A conversation with the teacher,	A conversation with the teacher, based	
based on a visual stimulus, followed	based on an extract from one of the	on a visual stimulus and at least one	
	literary works studied in class,	additional course theme. (30 marks)	

#### ASSESSMENT COMPONENT

followed by discussion based on one or more of the themes from the	
syllabus. (30 marks)	

#### LEVEL OF ENTRY IN IBDP LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

#### • IGCSE to IBDP

Students enter language acquisition courses with varying degrees of exposure to the target language. It is, therefore, important that students are placed into a course that is most suited to their language development needs and that will provide them with an appropriate academic challenge. Students with at least a B in the corresponding IGCSE as a Foreign Language course can comfortably take Language B HL. Students with at least a C in the corresponding IGCSE as a Foreign Language course can comfortably take Language B SL. Students with at least a D in the corresponding IGCSE as a Foreign Language as a Foreign Language course can comfortably take Language B SL. Students with at least a D in the corresponding IGCSE as a Foreign Language course can comfortably take Language Ab initio SL.

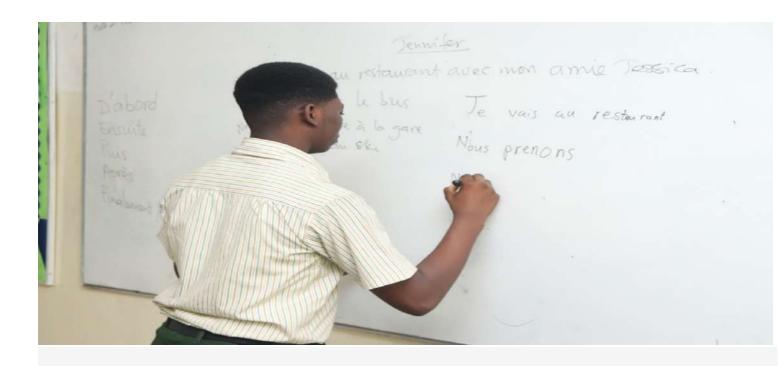
#### • MYP to IBDP

This table shows possible IB continuum pathways from MYP through to DP studies in language.

Start of MYP 1	MYP		DP	
Schools may offer	Emergent	Phase 1	Ab initio	
introductory MYP language acquisition courses (languages carousel courses) and consider the student's previous learning in the language during primary school education in order to determine		Phase 2	Ab initio (in rare cases) Language B SL	
	Capable	Phase 3	Language B SL	
		Phase 4	Language B SL/HL	
	Proficient	Phase 5	Language B SL /HL Language A: literature SL Language A: language and literature SL Literature and performance SL	
placement. Refer to the written and taught curriculum requirements section in this guide.		Phase 6	Language A: literature SL/HL Language A: language and literature SL/HL Literature and performance SL	

#### References:

- Language ab initio guide (First assessment 2020);
- Language B guide (First assessment 2020)
- IB website
- Language acquisition guide (for use from September 2020/January 2021)





4

#### **COVID-19 ARRANGEMENTS: IT & PERSONAL BELONGINGS**

#### For Students Who Remain on the TIS Domain

You can be removed remotely

Requirements: 1. Internet connection.

2. Email request to be removed from the TIS domain to: <u>support@tis.edu.gh</u> Within the email, add a mobile contact number that has WhatsApp.

3. Student visits <u>anydesk.com</u> and downloads and installs the client software.

4. There will be a direct contact with student via mobil /WhatsApp during configuration.

5. After download, the student will send IT staff the code and allow IT access to their desktop. The student will be able to see it onscreen.

#### **Collecting Personal Belongings From The Hostels**

Unfortunately, students will not be returning to hostels before the start of the new academic year in August.

Consequently, students will need to collect the remainder of their belongings by 14 June.

In some cases, belongings can be packed up by Hostel Parents and left with security for collection.

In other cases where students have not kept their belongings where they should be (for example, sports shoes), it is too difficult to determine ownership without any form of personal identification.

The collection of personal belongings may occur on Saturdays and Sundays until 7 June, or during the week of 8-12 June, under the following conditions.

- 1. One student per hostel will be allowed entry at an agreed time for a maximum of 15 minutes. Not being punctual forfeits your time slot.
- 2. Contact the relevant Hostel Coordinator, Aunty Setor or Uncle Gabriel, to schedule an agreed time.
- 3. You must be wearing a face mask and observe all health requirements while at TIS.
- 4. Practise patience as you await your scheduled time to be provided.

Students who do not reside close enough to collect your belongings must advise their Hostel Coordinator who will store your belongings until we see you next.

### HOSTEL NEWS

Class We wish you all the best!

#### Enjoy some reflections from your sisters:

"The friends you meet now will have an impact on you forever."

I never thought I will be in a position where these words held such truth in my life. To me, there was almost zero possibility I would have experienced that truth as a new student with the final year students. But all it took was a couple of months - some even days to establish strong connections with some IB2s especially my roommates. It's honestly hard to believe the journey has ended yet, began differently in their lives - away from TIS where I got used to their presence. However, I'm so grateful to have come across such beautiful personalities and establish bonds in ways I never thought possible. I wish them the best from the bottom of my heart. Hear me out: If they could take on the IB, what at all can't they handle? There's nothing more to say than I wish them the best and I definitely will never forget our memories together.

I'll miss the nights when contagious laughter filled the room, brief moments when it magically rained powder, the dark baths, and the chance to be a part of amazing conversations. I hope you all achieve the goals you set for yourself and even exceed them. Again, I wish you nothing but the best.

#### -Vanessa Addofoly Grade 11

**Phoebe-** Ever since entering, TIS Phoebe has been nothing but a sister to me. She was always there for me and she made the journey fun and beautiful. I will forever miss her and her funny conversations. I wish her well as she goes on to pursue her dreams. I can assure you that she will be one of the best lawyers this world has seen, and she will be successful in anything to which she puts her mind. I love her with all my heart, and I can't wait to see all the justice she brings to the world.

**Danielle-** Having known her from childhood, I instantly felt safe and calm with her around. She was always true to who she was, and it was beautiful. She was confident, smart, funny and she was always there to help me. I wish her well as she follows her dream to be one of the best doctors of all time.

**Aku-** Her confidence was inspiring to me, though she was regularly misunderstood, she was truly kind and diligent. She put effort and hard work in anything she did. Sleepless nights after sleepless nights she showed me what it was like to fight for what you wanted. I pray she becomes the woman she strives to be in the future.

**Noelle-** She will forever be my boss!! After being with her ever since her reign as entertainment executive started, she has gained my respect and love. We have been through so many adventures and fun times that it still makes me laugh till this day. I know for a fact that she will be successful in anything she wants to achieve as she has demonstrated the skills to be nothing less than the best version of herself.

**Maame Abena-** She is kind, beautiful, supporting and loving. She always pushed me to do what I wanted most but was too scared to go after. I will forever be thankful for having her in my life and I wish her well as she goes on to be the best version of herself

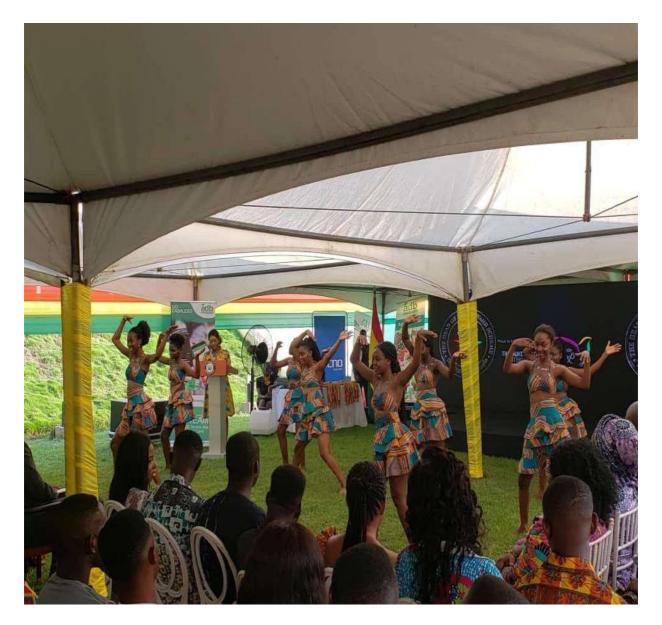
To **Davina**, I don't want to see you leave and I don't want to attend a TIS where you're not around to make me smile or to give me great advice. I miss you already and my wish is that you enjoy every opportunity life brings your way. Make the best of your university experience and I believe that you'll come out successful. Love, **Alberta Addo ~Grade 11** 

**To Ayeyi,** Congratulations on finally completing TIS! I'm grateful for your love and support and for making me feel welcome. I wish you all the best in your tertiary education and remember the sky is the limit!

To **Sophia**, Roomie, I'll miss you singing One Direction songs in the room with me and staying up to chat about inconsequential things. Make the best out of your university experience. xoxo

#### To my dear IB2s,

Thank you so much for being a part of my growth. You've all uniquely built me to be the person I am today. I want to say a special to all of you in Catherine. You've helped me grow significantly and have been there to put smiles on my face in common rooms and hostel parties. You were really the life of the hostel! A big thank you to all the roommates I've had amongst you: I've learnt a lot from you. I've been motivated by Keziah and Ama's relentlessness, Akua's outstanding grades and even Princess' constant complaints about French HL. All of you are amazing, and we love you so much. God bless you! Jackie Buba ~Grade 11





At TIS, we believe that culture as one of the four pillars for student balance and ensuing success, develops and enhances the creative, artistic and performing skills and talents in each student.



EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD

#### **CAS-SA Corner**

#### **#TIS Choir CAS Project -** The Biggest IB Student Virtual Choir in the World



#### By Ato Adenu-Mensah

The largest virtual IB choir!!!!!!!! Keep your shoulders relaxed. Smile and enjoy yourself. Don't let the music be heard on your recording...

These were some of the guidelines shared by the coordinators of the *We Are the World* Project that was initiated by Mr Harold Molina from Costa Rica.

At our first Zoom meeting last Friday, we had approximately 210 IB students and over 35 IB educators from IB Schools across the globe. We were all connected listening to Izmael Pacheco, who is a professional pianist and director of the Costa Rica's New Orchestra, and he played the piano and give us some tips for a better recording.

I was amazed, did not think that was possible, we were connected with students from around the world. We went through the whole project slide after slide. We learnt a lot. The best part for me was when they called my name; *Hi, Ato from Tema International School in Ghana, as the leader of the project, tell us why you joined and decided to lead these project?* I could not believe they were calling my name.

I was proud to talk about my passion for music, the TIS Choir Talented Inspiring Students, and why we joined the project. At the end of the meeting I was able to talk to the music director, Izmael Pacheco, who is a knowledgeable musician.

Thank you Mama Su and Dr Ken, thank you so much for this experience.

We can't wait for the final video to come out.

TIS Choir flying high!!!

#### All participants, kindly submit your parents' consent.

#### "We Are The World" - Michael Jackson

There comes a time when we heed a certain call When the world must come together as one There are people dying And it's time to lend a hand to life The greatest gift of all

We can't go on pretending day by day That someone somewhere will soon make a change We're all a part of World's great big family And the truth, you know Love is all we need We are the world We are the world We are the children We are the ones who make a brighter day So, let's start giving There's a choice we're making We're saving our own lives It's true we'll make a better day Just you and me

Send them your heart so they'll know that someone cares And their lives will be stronger and free As life has shown us by turning loss in gain And so we all must lend a helping hand

We are the world We are the children We are the ones who make a brighter day So, let's start giving There's a choice we're making We're saving our own lives It's true we'll make a better day Just you and me

When you're down and out There seems no hope at all But if you just believe There's no way we can fall Well, well, well Let's realize that a change can only come When we stand together as one





We are the world We are the children We are the ones who make a brighter day So, let's start giving There's a choice we're making We're saving our own lives It's true we'll make a better day Just you and me

### **NSHS & TIS Virtual Exchange**

#### By: Lydia Boahen

Another week, another interactive discussion! The cultural exchange has much more in store with our third virtual meeting last Friday, 8 May. This meeting was a very thoughtprovoking one and covered topics from a wide range of areas.





occasional meetings to check up on students.

We began the meeting with the first question "what were the highs and lows of your week?" As I explained last week, the pandemic has impacted as in vastly different ways.

Whilst TIS continues to have online classes and e-assessments, The Newton South students are given tasks for the week to complete and submit.

There are no online classes as not all students have the luxury or easy access to the internet and computers for an entire day, but teachers do have

So what were our highs and lows? Well for some TIS students our lows were the numerous tests that they had done during the week. Tests that we knew the answer but could not finish in time or did not have enough time to study for or many other factors.

A high from my partner, Miracle Smith, was that a lot of her favourite artists released music the previous day so she was excited to check it out.

We moved to more general topics when Aunty Katani asked what is your favourite holiday and food that you enjoy on that day. Here we got to see the diversity of the students. Charity said Valentine's Day was her favorite holiday and her favorite food on that day was chocolate. She expressed that the best thing about Valentine 's Day for her was the chocolate – everything is better when



chocolate is involved. Miracle said it her favourite holiday was Thanksgiving and her favourite meal on that day was Mac and Cheese and cornbread (not the giant Turkey). Oladele said his favourite holiday was Christmas and because he was both Nigerian and American, he enjoyed cuisines from both cultures. His favourite meals were Jollof Rice and meat pie. Bennett said his favorite holiday was Chinese New Year where he enjoyed the dumplings and barbeques. Emily said her favorite holiday was a Jewish holiday called Rosh Hashanah (The Jewish New Year), and on that day she enjoyed the matzo ball soup brisket. I was certainly enlightened by each of our various cultures and holidays. This is a fun question to ask to get to know someone better so ask all your friends "what is your favourite holiday and your favorite food on that day?"

CAS and Service projects. The TIS students explained to the Newton South students about the CAS component of the IBDP program and our various CAS initiatives in break rooms. Stacey explained her **Days for Girls Initiative** whilst Bennett spoke about his **Mandarin Club** and **Basketball Beyond Borders**. Charity and I spoke about the Playground Building Initiative called **Let's Get Play**. We also discussed different activities that fit into the various



components of CAS, Creativity which could be developing a skill, Activity which could be physical recreation and Service which is identifying an authentic need and taking action to better our communities.

We ended a meeting discussing why we think the COVID -19 has hit black people the hardest in the United States. The Newton South students explained to the TIS students the various reasons why this

was the case in new break rooms. Jonnai and Vyja from Newton South were in my break room and they explained how many black people were in the marginalized communities and could not afford healthcare.

Many of them already had underlying health issues, such as diabetes and asthma and so when they contract the virus, it is difficult for them to fight it. Many black people who are dying do not have access to healthcare and also end up dying from the virus because they cannot afford to go to the hospital or they were less likely to get treatment. Some of the black people are also essential workers and are more prone to the virus.



What was interesting was that the states that have a smaller percentage of black people have higher deaths. Georgia, for example, had 5% black people yet 85% of cases of the coronavirus are black. Another factor was that many places such as New York are very congested and that makes the virus spread easier. There were more facts that we discussed but these were just the highlights. As global citizens, it is good to be

aware of the challenges that different people are facing all around the world.

The meeting ended with Aunty Katani and Mama Su informing us that the next time we meet, the discussion would be led by selected students from TIS and Newton South to be precise, the team leaders! I cannot wait for the next session and to learn from our counterparts. We may not had the chance to meet face to face as planned, but here we are sharing and learning a lot from one another.



Until next time, stay safe and updated.





Dear Class of 2020, who ever thought you will not write the DP Exams? What about the rituals of signing uniforms, running through the classroom corridors, dancing and singing after the last paper, follow by a memorable IB trip that TIS knows how to pull through like no other. I still cannot believe that these became just plans, memories, left behind. We meticulously daydreamed every step of your journey to graduation day. You made sure you started preparations as early as last December. What about the long conversations deliberating on the possibilities of an extra night at the IB trip or a Leavers' Lunch...

We started bonding at our CAS Orientation Camp, Shai Hills. We had such an amazing time and a great start to our two-years' DP Journey. The Risk-Takers were born and indeed you lived up to the name.

Class of 2020, you will tell you story of resilience, faith, hope and change. Yes, change, the change you witnessed so rapidly for the past weeks. May this experience make you stronger, kinder and better.

Be ready for your Virtual Graduation, it's going to be one of a kind, a moment of reflection and a call for action. There is no one better than you to step in the unknown and apply all that you have learned and show all that you have become as a result of your time here.

Till then, the TIS community celebrates you, each one of you, with gratitude and joy as you share your story with the world. Mama Su - a proud CAS Coordinator





This is to my **Masbe** and **Princess**. You have been such a great part of my TIS life, I almost didn't notice that I was getting older. These changing times are pulling as apart. I loved every moment, so goodbye with much love. **Jenevieve Achemdey - G7** 

I wish you a new journey of Success and Happiness in the new page of life. We love you. Jessie Ofori-Appiah - G8

I really appreciate all of you for all you have done for us and we all hope that you find success after TIS. **Chris Quarshie - G8** 

I've had great experiences with some people in the DP class of 2020. I want to say thank you to **Ama**, **Dwayne**, **Portia**, **Ayeyi**, **Maame Abena**, **and Phoebe** for helping me with a lot of

things and making my two years in TIS so far very memorable. I hope for the best for all of them and God be with them all. **Nana Yaa Owusu-Manu - G8** 

I would miss the DP2s very much. Not only will I miss their presence but everything about them from their kindness, leadership and perseverance. They were able to show their responsibilities by taking good care of the juniors and supporting us. Some also helped us with our ASA and academics. They were very nice, have good personalities and are unique in their own ways. I will miss them very much and I wish them the best of luck. **Afua Osei-Boakye - G8** 



Congratulations, IB Class of 2020! Hope you guys enjoy the rest of your life! Some people will miss you dearly. **Imani Webb - G8** 

Join us as we celebrate each member of the **IB Class of 2020** on a daily bases within our Social Media Handles. Follow TIS on social media. Click on the links below and join us on *Twitter*, *FaceBook and Instagram*. Like, comment and share the inspiring Poster of each member of our graduating Class.

https://www.instagram.com/tema international school/ - https://web.facebook.com/TISGhana

https://twitter.com/TIS Ghana

**TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL** 



## **Celebrating the Class of 2020**

Tema International School is always proud of its graduating class. In 2020, with COVID-19 changing our daily lives, practices and traditions in so many ways, we are determined that each member of the IB Class of 2020 receives the recognition s/he deserves.

Thank you for so many special memories and for making us proud. We look forward to you continuing as alumni members of our TIS family while you continue with the next stage of your journey. Best wishes.

### Dr Ken Darvall Principal

www.tis.edu.gh

*John,* congratulations!!!! You will be remembered for your sportsmanship and contribution to Anthony Hostel. Keep soaring high.





## **Celebrating the Class of 2020**

I entered the four corners of TIS back in 2014 and I learnt so much and I have made long lasting relationships. I will always cherish achievements like becoming Deputy Anthony Hostel Executive and winning a gold medal at ISSAG Athletics in my first time participating and being awarded with the Best Male Sportsman Award in Athletics at Achievers' Day in DP1, and graduating. Moving forward, I plan to study medicine at the University of Ghana, Legon, to become a well-renowned surgeon in this great nation and the world beyond.

## John Quartey IB Class of 2020

www.tis.edu.gh

Awwww *Padikuor*, We love you. We loved hearing your voice in the school choir and also during meals in the MPH. Keep soaring high.



Well done, *Sophia*! Your hard work is much appreciated. We are glad you enjoyed your time here. Keep the fire burning!





Dear *Aku*, congratulations! You made it!!!! Keep being the amazing person you are. We love you.

Jennifer, we love you!!!! Thank you for the wonderful memories. You rock!!!!



**TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL** 



## **Celebrating the Class of 2020**

I joined TIS class of 2020 in August 2018, a short journey with treasured memories and experiences gained for a lifetime. A memorable moment was dancing in various school events, especially the grand Durbar TIS@15, where the Second Lady of Ghana was the guest of honour. I will miss my junior friends and my grade mates, the teachers and the kitchen staff. I will miss the hostel and the library, which are the coolest places in TIS.

I am looking forward to join Loyola College in India to study Visual Arts which will prepare me to become a renowned Fashion Designer.

## Jennifer Noronha IB Class of 2020



www.tis.edu.gh

Congratulations, *Daniela*. Your resilience and determination are admirable. Keep up the good work. You are awesome.



*Ama*, we are proud of you. Thank you for all the memories. We will miss you at prep. Congratulations.



IB Class of 2020

www.tis.edu.gh

## #Welcome to our Virtual World





### #ASA - Make up Class







Show off your make up skills. Send us a short video of you doing that Makeup, in your favourite T Shirt and let's rock and roll!

Check ManageBac for uploading details.



## **#ASA – Dance Class**



#### **#TISDukies**

To register for the DoEIA during COVD-19 quarantine kindly email the CASSA team, or send a message via ManageBac.



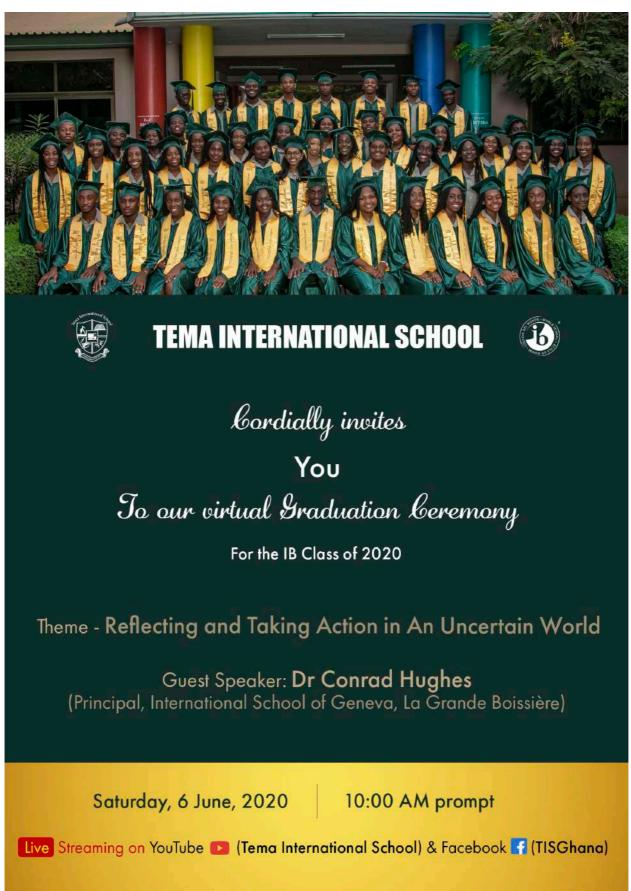


#### seniorsoftis - https://www.instagram.com/seniorsoftis/

Hello TIS family!!! This page was made in order to honour the IB class of 2020. We know that graduating under these circumstances may not be what we had foreseen, but we plan to make the best out of the situation! The Class of 2020 would like to give thanks to all of the TIS faculty members, student body, and our loving families. Without your love and support we would not be where we are today. **Chelsea Bada – Class of 2020** 



#### #Reflecting and taking action in an uncertain world.







At TIS, we believe that Service, as one of the four pillars for student balance and ensuing success, provides a hands-on experience to how we can make the world a better place through action and an understanding that success comes from helping others grow and becoming empowered.



EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD

## **COUNSELLORS' CORNER**



Making the most out of every day, starts with having a positive outlook on life regardless of your circumstances! It also requires you to value your time and to decide to make the most out of every second, every minute, and every hour. Time, once it passes cannot be regained. So, make every day count!

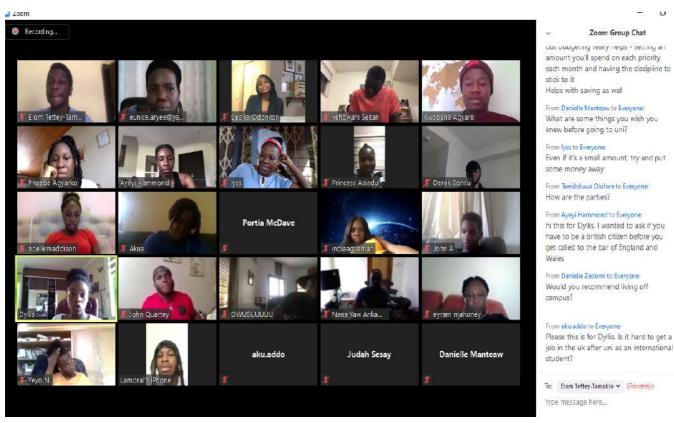


#### Highlights from Special DP2 Pre-University, Pre-Departure Session with TIS Alumni!

Last Friday, as announced, we had a wonderful time with some TIS Alumni, via a Zoom virtual meeting. We were very privileged to have them share insightful nuggets of wisdom, advice and their candid experiences from life beyond TIS, and in the universities, with our DP2 students. Many of the questions baffling them were answered. **Thank you very much our distinguished alumni!** We again wish to express our **sincere gratitude** to the following alumni for joining us and, especially to Elom Tettey-Tamaklo, for his dedication and enthusiasm in

facilitating the meeting. Thank you to Dyllis Bruce-Cathline, Kwabena Agyare, Yehowahi Sekan, Derek Bonsu, Cecilia Odonkor, Kalyssa Owusu and Nana Yaw Ankama-Asamoah. We are happy to hear how each of you are excelling in diverse ways and we pray for more grace and good success ahead. Stay healthy and safe.

THIS YEAR THE ALUMNI CLASS OF 2010 WILL BE 'HOSTING' OUR SPECIAL VIRTUAL GRADUATION FOR THE CLASS OF 2020! <u>WE INVITE ALL ALUMNI</u> TO JOIN US FOR THIS VIRTUAL GRADUATION CELEBRATION ON 6 JUNE AT 10AM! IT WILL BE SUPER-EXCITING!



## Here are reflections from some DP2s who were part of the meeting with Alumni (pictured above)

"Undoubtedly, the virtual pre-university departure meeting was a success. I was amazed at how the Alumni passionately poured out their words of wisdom and experience unreservedly. One thing that really struck me was when an Alumna encouraged us to go to university bearing in mind that wherever we may find ourselves, we belong where we are and we must take up the space and not be mere spectators. After the meeting I definitely felt empowered to take the next step ahead of me!" – **Phoebe Agyarko** 

"On the 8 May, my colleagues and I were lucky enough to gain some advice from some of the Alumni in such an unprecedented time. The meeting was extremely helpful to most of us because we had the opportunity to ask different kinds of questions about life after TIS. The questions ranged from questions on race to questions on party life. It was very informative. Fortunately for me, one of the Alumni who joined the discussion attended the university I plan on going to and so I was able to get a better sense of the school community. Finally, I'd like to thank all the Alumni who took time out of their busy schedules to meet with us as well as all the counsellors for organising this meeting." – **Dwayne Gyateng** 

"I found the virtual pre-university session very informative and engaging. The most interesting part for me was when the Alumni discussed the cultural differences when studying abroad, specifically, the contrast in the meaning of "friendships". They explained that in Westernized cultures friendships are usually more surface-level whereas in African cultures, generally, there are deeper connections between friends. I am grateful for the opportunity to take part in the session as I learnt a lot and found it worthwhile." **- Daniela Kumah** 

"The online Alumni session we had was very insightful. We posed questions about financial aid, dealing with cultural shocks, co-curricular activities, and all thoughts about university life as against life in high school. I personally loved the discussion about finding what fits best for you, in terms of co-curricular activities and managing them such that they bring your fulfillment without negatively affecting your academics. It was a lovely meeting we had and I am glad I took part in virtually meeting past students of Tema International School." - Kendric Effah-Gyan

"The meeting with the Alumni last week was very insightful. We were privileged to have students from Class of 2011-2018. During the meeting we learnt that university is very difficult but it can be easy if we are determined and always ready to challenge ourselves. They also encouraged us to spend our money wisely, make new friends from different countries and never be shy to ask for help. This meeting has giving me great ideas and plans for university. Thank you College Guides team and the TIS family for this great opportunity." – **Maame Abena Mensah-Asante** 

#### **DP2 REMINDERS;**

✓ DP2s Zoom Meeting with College Guides this Friday, 15 May, at 3pm prompt, to discuss university next steps, visa application and visa interview tips, university entrance exams, et cetera.

Please join us for this important meeting this Friday via zoom. Log in details have been posted on ManageBac under the Grade 12 guidance class. All DP2 Students are required to be part of this meeting. Thank you.

- ✓ IBIS FORM DUE! You should have submitted your IBIS form to your counsellor by now. Be sure to have your IBIS form submitted to your counsellor in order to take advantage of the opportunity for IB to send your official final IB results to your top 6 universities for free, when the results are released in July.
- STUDENT VISA ISSUES; With some embassies closed due to COVID-19, please continue to check for updates on the official country-specific embassy websites, for updates. Some embassies are allowing online applications, although in-person appointments are not open yet. So constantly update yourselves by visiting the online official country-specific visa application websites. This way, you can track what happens and know when they resume services, so you can put in your student visa application right away, as soon as they open. For some countries, you may be able to even start the online student visa application process in the meantime. Also

communicate directly with your preferred universities right away, if you have any challenges applying for the visa **on time.** Also check with your university to find out any updates on plans for the start of your undergraduate studies for the fall 2020 semester. We are hopeful that things will return to normal soon, so you can apply for your student visas for universities abroad hopefully in May.

✓ REPLYING TO YOUR OFFERS, UK AND OTHER UNIVERSITY OFFERS; Be sure to respond to your schools, and accept offers for universities you wish to attend. If you don't respond by the required deadline, you can lose your offer.

Check out this link for information on the deadlines to reply to your UK OFFERS; WE hope the ZOOM meeting was helpful and you are now very clear on how to make a wise UK FIRM -FIRST CHOICE AND INSURANCE- BACK UP/SAFETY CHOICE using UCAS Track. Once you and your parents approve your final two UK choices, you have to log onto UCAS TRACK to select your two choices, after which UCAS will withdraw all other offers you have received from the system. Please make these choices carefully. Take note of the deadlines below, if you miss it you will lose all your UK UNIVERSITY OFFERS, so be sure to choose your FIRM AND INSURANCE RIGHT AWAY.

- If you received your last decision on or before 31 March 2020, your reply date is 19 May 2020.
- If you receive your last decision on or before 20 May 2020, your reply date is 4 June 2020.
- If you receive your last decision on or before 4 June 2020, your reply date is 18 June 2020 (except if you're using Extra to find a place).
- If you receive your last decision on or before 13 July 2020, your reply date is 20 July 2020 (including Extra choices)
- <u>https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/after-you-apply/types-offer/replying-your-ucas-undergraduate-offers</u>

#### **UNIVERSITY UPDATES;**

• University of Warwick, UK

Dear Friends of Warwick University,

Greetings from England and I hope this email finds you well! I have a few updates which I hope you'll find useful for your student. In summary, these are:

- <u>Taster Lecture and Virtual Chat/Virtual Open Days</u> <u>https://warwick.ac.uk/study/livechat/</u>
- <u>'Choosing a University' (new video)</u> <u>https://warwick.ac.uk/study/</u>

- Advice for prospective students- Covid19 Updates
- https://warwick.ac.uk/insite/coronavirus/future-students/
- BA Liberal Arts (new videos and resources)

https://warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses-2020/liberalarts/

#### • Brexit

https://warwick.ac.uk/about/brexit/future/

Rolf The Warwick Campus Cat •

#### Virtual Open Day and Taster Lecturer

Join our staff and students who are here to answer your questions and help you explore Warwick. You can join our general drop-in sessions, or talk to prospective department and student services. We are also on hand to answer any admin related questions.

You might want to use our:

- list of department live chat pages
- tools for international visitors, including our timezone calculator https://warwick.ac.uk/study/livechat/international-students
- advice about our live chats and our disclaimer.

#### 'Choosing a University'

Our students have kindly shared tips on how to choose a university in a short video (less than 5 mins) at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OPzomw3C8w

#### Advice for prospective students- Covid19 Updates

See our current advice for students around COVID-19, including how we are preparing for the number of cases in the UK increasing and for more significant impact on our community.

From an admission point, the University has also worked on various aspects and scenarios, and it is cataloguing all these information on frequently updated FAQ webpage. The link to this is here: https://warwick.ac.uk/insite/coronavirus/

We hope the FAQ are helpful guidance at this challenging time. If you have any further questions, please join us on our daily live chat from Monday - Friday between 9.30am - 3.30pm BST.

#### **BA Liberal Arts**

Liberal Arts at Warwick enables students to study a wide range of subjects and to tailor their degree to their own intellectual interests. They will learn through problem-solving, by examining issues from multiple disciplinary perspectives.

We have some great new videos to help explain our program, including what makes it different from other universities at:

- Student Experience https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5VY11fW8Vk What can you do with Liberal Arts? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7NEqHmYfbyM •
- What is Liberal Arts?
- **Research** topics

Our Director of Student Experience, Dr Gavin Schwartz-Leeper, has written a useful Guide to Liberal Education Programs. Gavin is super happy to chat by Skype with students and school counselors. Feel free to reach out or share his details if you or your students are interested!

Email:g.e.schwartz-leeper@warwick.ac.ukSkype:gavinslTwitter:@gavinsl

#### • George Mason University, USA

I hope this newsletter finds you and your students well. I wanted to send you a note to let you know that Mason is thinking about you. With the announcement of so many school closures, transitions to extended remote learning and cancellations of milestone moments, we want you to know that your well-being is top of mind here at Mason.

I understand that your lives have been upended by this situation, and many students are struggling with the uncertainty of how their senior year will be impacted. It is a stressful time for all, and here at Mason, we are continuing to think of ways that we can interact with you and your students virtually and provide you the guidance and flexibility that your students will need for making decisions about their future.

While we are disappointed we can't have you and your students visit our beautiful campus community, we have created a **<u>Virtual Experience</u>**. <u>https://www2.gmu.edu/virtual-experience</u>

It contains a wealth of knowledge regarding next steps, campus tours, info sessions, and even oncampus housing information. I've been so proud of our Mason community through these challenging times, and I hope someday soon we get to share what it means to be a Patriot with you and your students in person.

Our staff is here to help answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact us at admissions@gmu.edu or at 703-993-2400.

Sincerely,

Amy Takayama-Perez, M.Ed. Dean of Admissions

#### • Rhodes College, USA

Greetings from Memphis! As the academic year ends and the summer begins, we wanted to share the many upcoming opportunities being offered by Rhodes for your students. You can read more about our evolving <u>Plan for Fall 2020</u>.

https://www.rhodes.edu/admission-aid/admitted-students/fall-2020-plan

Please let us know what questions you have as your own work continues this summer.

FOR YOUR NEWLY ENROLLED RHODES STUDENTS:

• **NEW Pre-Mester**: This new program offers enrolled students a chance to get a head start at Rhodes under the close guidance of an outstanding faculty member. Students select one of six courses to take from July 27 - August 14. See the courses offered and learn more details <u>here</u>.

#### FOR GRADUATING SENIORS:

• Accepting Applications for Fall 2020: The Common Application remains open for both first-year and transfer students who are rethinking their plans for this fall. Financial aid is still available for families who submit a FAFSA and/or CSS Profile.

#### FOR JUNIORS AND SOPHOMORES:

- **NEW Summer Scholars**: The Rhodes Summer Scholars Program (SSP) provides current high school students and recent high school graduates meaningful, credit-bearing pre-college experiences. Students enroll in two-week, credit bearing courses (2 credits each) that will prepare them for college-level instruction in a liberal arts context. **Remote learning courses** will be **typically** limited to 12 students and will be taught by Rhodes professors. There are 2 options from June 15 June 26 and June 29 July 10.
- **Summer Virtual Visits**: We are looking forward to sharing Rhodes with your students and families this summer! Please encourage your students to take advantage of these virtual opportunities to connect with members of our community.
  - Weekday Virtual Visits

#### https://admission.rhodes.edu/portal/virtualvisit

Virtual Campus Tour led by current studentInformation Session with admission counselor and current student

- Interviews with admission counselor and/or current student
- Discover Rhodes programs
  - June 9, 2020 from 4:00-5:30pm CT
  - July 21, 2020 from 4:00-5:30pm CT
- **General College Prep Sessions** to include: Essay Tips, Pre-Med at a Liberal Arts School, What To Do When Everything is Cancelled, Athletic Recruiting 101 and more. Dates to be listed <u>here</u>.
- Summer Writing Institute & Mock Trial Academy: These popular credit-bearing summer programs for rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors are being held remotely this summer. Learn more about <u>Summer Writing Institute</u> and <u>Mock Trial Academy</u> offered from June 14 June 26. Discounts available for early registration!
- **Test Optional**: <u>Rhodes has committed to becoming test optional</u> for the classes entering in the Fall of 2021, Fall 2022, and Fall 2023 as a pilot study. We believe that the current circumstances will make it too difficult for current high school juniors to plan a successful college search if test scores are required.
- Need college search programming? Consider asking one of our admission counselors to host a virtual college planning session that can be pre-recorded or delivered live with the opportunity for Q&A. We would be happy to talk about the college essay, selective college admission, liberal arts, mock case studies, and just about anything else you think would be helpful. Our team stands ready to help!

It is a tradition for the Rhodes Singers to perform Moses Hogan's *Hear My Prayer* at their spring concert each year. Their concert had to be cancelled, but the Rhodes' community and dedication to excellence endure. Please enjoy their <u>beautiful</u> <u>performance</u>, produced by one of our own students.

Wishing you health and rest this summer! J. Carey Thompson, VP of Enrollment and Communications Megan Starling, Interim Director of Admission

Rhodes College

2000 North Parkway | Memphis, TN 38112 Office: 901-843-3225 | Toll free: 800-844-5969 starlingm@rhodes.edu

#### **COMPLETION OF GHANAIAN UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS- DP2s**

Please note that as of March 2020, we completed all Ghanaian university applications for DP2s.

DP2 students who still wish to apply to Ashesi University or any other universities in Ghana, should please complete the process at home and submit their applications directly to the respective universities, following the university-specific guidelines provided.

Remember that you would have to submit your official transcript from TIS with predicted grades, as well as your IGCSE results, as these tend to me the basic requirements of most universities, in addition to national IDS, essays among others. Please check for specific requirements of the university and be sure to complete the application process right away. Details were shared in previous TIS Bulletins, or contact the College Guides directly for assistance if needed. Thanks.

#### **DP1 STUDENTS**

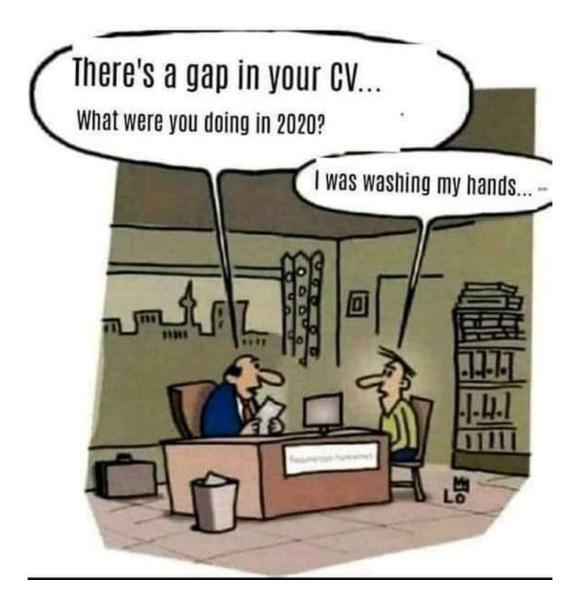
We wish you the very best as you prepare for your end of semester virtual exams. Put in your best effort and remember that your performance counts towards your overall academic profile which universities will evaluate for admission. So, work hard. You've got this!

Also do not miss your one-on-one meetings with your Guidance Counsellor and be sure to submit all pending college-related assignments.

• We will have a DP1 zoom meeting with a U.S. university next week. ZOOM details will be shared on ManageBac soon. Attendance will be recorded. Please be punctual.

**DP1s, remember to submit** all pending assignments - brag sheets, essays, personal statements, university selection sheets, financial aid forms among others. Remember to discuss courses and university options with your parents during this time at home.

• Financial aid one-on-one meetings with DP1 parents will commence in the coming week and will continue for the next couple of weeks. We will be in touch regarding this.



**Dear students across the world**, people are being told to stay at home and practise 'social distancing' in the wake of the global coronavirus pandemic. If you're usually a busy student, the switch from your everyday life to one indoors all day can be jarring. However, there are plenty of ways to fill your time during lockdown – What can you do to become productive?

#### Especially to our DP1s please note that...

- With the ongoing online lessons put in your best. Your teachers will predict your grades next semester which is very crucial for university selection and great scholarship offers.
- Although you are not involved in any extracurricular, community engagements and leadership roles at the moment, seize the opportunity. There are limitless things you can do to boost your social skills and great points for resume writing too! Think of initiatives you can implement from home, or even through virtual platforms. Kudos to our DP1 Assembly team!
- Also with university interviews and essay supplements you can be asked to share your unique stories with admission managers. Make sure you have something inspiring to share.

#### Here a few things To Dos

#### ✓ Learn a language/Sign Language

I'm not suggesting you become fluent in French by the time the lockdown finishes but learning the basics of a new language using apps like Duolingo can be a productive (and fun!) way to pass the time and keep your mind sharp!

#### ✓ Organize your notes

This might not be the most thrilling way to pass the time, but, you can finally organize all those loose bits of reading material and lecture notes floating around your room.

#### ✓ Start a reading challenge

If you're the sort of person who thrives off set goals, a reading challenge is a great way to up your literary intake. Goodreads allows you to set and track a reading target for the year, and you can connect with like-minded book fans for recommendations.

#### ✓ Keep socially active

Whether you're living with friends, family, or by yourself, it's so important to keep in touch with people to avoid loneliness. If you're still doing school work, consider setting up online study groups with course-mates to bring some semblance of normality to your week – it's just like being on campus (sort of!)

#### ✓ Start an online book club

Combine reading with socializing by starting an online book club with your friends. Pick a book, pick a length of time to read it in, then discuss over video call with a glass of wine and feel all cultured.

#### ✓ Reading not your thing? Try an audiobook

Audible are offering hundreds of titles completely free of charge, from Jane Eyre to Winnie the Pooh. Simply sign in with your Amazon account to get started. You can finally subscribe to those podcasts you've been pretending to listen to! If you're a business or marketing student

#### ✓ Join an online choir

In the wake of the coronavirus outbreak, online choirs like The Sofa Singers have been created to foster a sense of connection between people and to relieve anxiety (you can find out more about them here). Even if you're a terrible singer, it's hard to feel stressed when you're blasting out Whitney Houston at top volume.

#### ✓ Take a virtual museum tour/ 'Visit' the wonders of the world

Many of the world's top museums can be visited virtually through Google Arts & Culture, with the added bonus of not having to queue or jostle with fellow art-lovers to get a good view. Gift shop sadly not included. Satisfy your unfulfilled wanderlust by taking in some of the most impressive landmarks in the world from the comfort of your sofa: The Guardian has a great round-up of must-see virtual tours here.

#### $\checkmark$ Do virtual tours of universities and colleges around the world

This is a great time to explore universities through virtual visits! Do your university research based on your interests and note the requirements, so you can work towards that. Also, you have more time at home with your parents, so make time to discuss your university options and preferences. And of course, your college counsellors are every ready to guide you, so reach out to us for a zoom meeting or phone call to discuss your options further.

#### ✓ Watch documentaries

Let's be real, you're going to be spending a lot of time watching TV over the next few months. You might as well expand your knowledge by picking one of the many documentaries Netflix has to offer, on subjects as wide-ranging as politics and history.

#### ✓ Doing Chores/Learn How to Cook

Almost certainly the most boring thing on this list. This is a chance to learn home management skills for your future. Guaranteed to make you feel better and like you've achieved something amazing.

#### ✓ Get green-fingered

If you have a garden, or even just a balcony, take advantage of the soothing properties of gardening. If you plant herbs, you'll even have a ready-made garnish for all those lovely meals you'll be making (or your bowl of cheesy pasta).

#### ✓ Do an email detox

Unsubscribe from any unproductive mailings lists you don't want to be on anymore and put important emails in folders so you can find them more easily. A simple way to feel smug.

#### ✓ Sort out your finances

Seeing as you won't be spending any money on nights out for the near future, now's a great time to sort out your finances. See if you could be getting a better deal on your bills, think about setting up a savings account...the possibilities are endless!

#### ✓ And lastly don't forget to exercise to keep fit!

Click here for more information <u>https://www.topuniversities.com/student-info/health-support/25-productive-things-do-while-social-distancing</u>



Due to COVID-19, Unfortunately College Board's May and June SAT tests have been cancelled by College Board. We shared details of this official message in previous week's bulletin.

The next SAT exam at TIS will be in <u>August 2020, as we received information this week</u> <u>that June SAT Exams have also been cancelled</u>. In light of the inconveniences caused, College Board is considering adding extra test dates in September and November this year. We will keep you posted regarding this. See the new upcoming SAT test dates below. :

SAT 2020-2021

- August 29, 2020
- October 3, 2020
- December 5, 2020
- March 13, 2021
- May 8, 2021

PSAT 2020 Exam Date:

• Saturday, October 17, 2020

DP1s, don't wait until the eleventh hour to register. Register now to avoid any disappointments!

https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/international



Test takers please come along with your <u>valid unexpired passport</u> as the only form of identification! Photocopies are not acceptable.

• Number 2 pencils (buy from the Tuckshop), approved calculator, eraser, admission ticket and sharpeners required.

SAT Registration Fees (To complete registration online full payment with credit card only. Visit www.collegeboard.org)

SAT I - U.S. \$107.50 SAT II: 1 subject (\$117), 2 subjects (\$127), 3 subjects (\$137) (estimates).

# **ACT**<sup>®</sup> 2019-2020 TEST DATES (COMPUTER-BASED TESTING ONLY!)

ACT April Exam has also been cancelled by ACT Inc., USA due to COVID-19 concerns.

Parents and Students, please take note the official message from ACT was shared in the previous week's bulletin.

WE WILL CONDUCT THE NEXT ACT EXAM ON JUNE 13 2020. PLEASE TAKE NOTE AND SIGN UP FOR THE TEST RIGHT AWAY.

NEXT ACT EXAM DATE- 13 JUNE 2020.

ACT Registration Fees (Online payments only: Visit <u>www.actstudent.org</u>): ACT plus writing – U.S. \$166.50. (TIS Test Centre Code: 870390, but inform counsellor first).

#### \*To complete registration, payment must be made online in full with a credit card.

ACT April DEADLINE coming up. DP1s especially are encouraged to sign up for the April ACT exam this year! Aim to complete registration right away! STEM students have an edge when they take the ACT.



NEW TEST DATES FOR ACT FOR NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR

#### ACT 2020-2021

- Saturday, June 13, 2020
  - Saturday, September 12, 2020
- Saturday, October 10, 2020
- Saturday, December 12, 2020
- Saturday, April 17, 2021

PRACTICE TESTS FOR SAT, ACT OR PRE-ACT, PSAT AND OTHER TEST PREP RESOURCES FROMTHE OFFICIAL TEST MAKERS CAN BE FOUND HERE; WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORGANDWWW.ACTSTUDENT.ORGAND









