The Pressure is On!

IAs (Internal Assessments)! TOK essay! Personal Project! Extended Essay! ePortfolios! Mock exams! Other assessment tasks!

G10 and 12 students (and their teachers) are feeling the pressure at the moment with critical deadlines imminent.

Prior planning by students and timely feedback from teachers should avoid any last-minute efforts.

Balance, especially in terms of sleep, diet and exercise, will be important as this semester rolls on towards May.

In 2021, the priority is not so much time-management, but distraction-management. Put aside anything you know is a distraction until the beginning of June. You will then have enough time on your hands for all the distractions you desire.

Vol.17, No.25
A constant barrier to personal success and achievement that many overlook is sleep, especially, the lack of it. Many believe in the Superman theory of surviving on a few hours of sleep, especially at exam time. Yet, this is the opposite to reality.

How much is enough sleep? The research is out there to take notice. Think. Reflect. Act.

Reminder
As a general rule, exeats will not be approved as we attempt to minimise the interaction of students outside TIS. Urgent medical exeats will be approved as long as the student only attends the appointment and returns immediately to school, without any further interactions.

Happy Chinese New Year!
Today is the the Chinese New Year and the commencement of the Year of the Ox.

We hope our families enjoying this special occasion also enjoy a healthy, prosperous and strong new year.

I appreciate your support. Stay healthy.

Dr Ken Darvall (Principal)
HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR 2021
THE YEAR OF OX
**TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

Primary School Campus
Admissions Open For 2021/2022 Academic Year

**Flexible admission screenings and interviews**

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**Entry Points in 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preschool</th>
<th>Junior Primary</th>
<th>Senior Primary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder 1 (3-4 years)</td>
<td>Grade 1 (5.5 - 7 years)</td>
<td>Grade 4 (8.5 - 10 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinder 2 (4-5 years)</td>
<td>Grade 2 (6.5 - 8 years)</td>
<td>Grade 5 (9.5 years-11 years)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kinder 3 (5-6 years)</td>
<td>Grade 3 (7.5 – 9 years)</td>
<td>Grade 6 (10.5 - 12 years)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All admission applications will be online via Open Apply: [https://tis.openapply.com](https://tis.openapply.com)

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.
The online application process can be completed at: [https://tis.openapply.com](https://tis.openapply.com)

For further information contact us on phone:
+233 303 305134; +233 303 308737; email: admissions@tis.edu.gh

Or come and visit the school (Opp Afariwa Farms, Off Tema-Akosombo Road)

[www.tis.edu.gh](http://www.tis.edu.gh)

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**MAIN CAMPUS**

**SECONDARY ADMISSIONS ARE OPEN FOR 2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR**

*A family school, a unique experience.*

**Flexible online admission testing is available**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY POINTS:</th>
<th>Grade 7 (MYP 2)</th>
<th>Grade 8 (MYP 3)</th>
<th>Grade 9 (MYP 4)</th>
<th>Grade 10 (MYP 5)</th>
<th>Grade 11 (IB Diploma Programme)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Grade 7 (MYP 2)** | Students should:  
  a) Have completed Primary 6.  
  b) Be aged 11+(at the time of admission).  
  c) Complete a general aptitude test and interview. | | | | |
| **Grade 8 (MYP 3)** | Students should:  
  a) Have completed JHS 1 or in JHS 2.  
  b) Be aged 13+(at the time of admission).  
  c) Complete a general aptitude test and interview. | | | | |
| **Grade 9 (MYP 4)** | Students should:  
  a) Have completed Year 8 or Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE).  
  b) Be aged 14+(at the time of admission).  
  c) Complete a general aptitude test and interview. | | | | |
| **Grade 10 (MYP 5)** | Students should:  
  a) Have completed Year 9.  
  b) Be aged 15+(at the time of admission).  
  c) Complete a general aptitude test and interview. | | | | |
| **Grade 11 (IB Diploma Programme)** | Students should:  
  a) Have successfully completed MYP 5, the IGCSE (Or its equivalent) or awaiting the results of the IGCSE.  
  b) Be aged 16+(at the time of admission).  
  c) Complete a general aptitude test and interview for non IGCSE & GCSE students (i.e. WASSCE, OCR, AQA). | | | | |

The online application process can be completed at: [https://tis.openapply.com](https://tis.openapply.com)

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TIS ADMISSIONS 2021/2022

Admissions for the next academic year, 2021/2022, officially open on 1 December, 2020.

For 2020/2021, TIS had to put the FULL HOUSE sign up for the first time in many years. The coming year may end up the same way.

With the limited number of places available, TIS will be prioritising admissions for Grades 7-9 at the main campus and all classes at the Primary Campus.

*Please note that admissions for the current year, 2020/2021, are being accepted for second semester at the Primary School Campus.*

For admissions to the secondary school, applicants will be contacted in the first week of February 2021 to arrange for the online admission test. Admission interviews will be conducted in mid-February and first round offers will be made.

Applications for Grade 11 will be considered from 1 April and will be dependent upon the re-enrolment process and the vacancies arising. Applicants for Grade 11 should include their predicted grades for 2021.

It is likely that all secondary school vacancies will be filled by 30 April. While families with siblings at TIS will receive a priority, this only remains in force while vacancies exist.

Intending applicants should arrange a tour of the appropriate campus before the admission interview takes place.

Dr Ken Darvall
Principal
1/12/20
THE PYP UNITS OF INQUIRY
The PYP programme of inquiry is defined by the six transdisciplinary themes for ages 6 years to 12 years and four transdisciplinary themes for ages 3 years to 5 years that are considered worthy of inquiry. These are: Who we are; Where we are in place and time; How we express ourselves; How the world works; How we organize ourselves; and, Sharing the planet. Each theme is explored as a unit of inquiry that is planned and documented on a PYP planner. Below are the units of inquiry being explored for the past four weeks in the Primary School for respective classes.

KINDER 1
The TOPAZ group is inquiring into the unit, ‘Where We Are In Place and Time’. The Kinder One class is exploring the central idea, ‘We learn about the past from stories’. This unit is focusing on indigenous stories from learners' ethnic groups and families, moral lessons in those stories and how they can change our attitudes and perceptions. Learners have been enjoying stories presented in different ways. For example, through oral storytelling, music, drama, dance, art and reading. Learners have been identifying story characters, the IB Learner Profile attributes which best describe them, and how they would like to emulate their positive traits.

![Enjoying a story in Sign Language class while observing good social distancing](image)
Families of the learners have also been given the opportunity to share special family and migration stories about their ethnic groups, as well as artifacts which are unique to their cultures. They have the choice to collaborate with us virtually to reduce outside contact and the risk of COVID-19 or in person, while adhering to COVID-19 protocols.

One such visit that has lingered in the minds of our learners has been from one family who shared the migration story and culture of the Kwahu people of Ghana. Our resource person shared foods peculiar to the Kwahu people, their clothing, history of their name and present settlement. She taught our learners the ‘Dedende Kwawe’ song, which they sang and danced to ‘Adowa’ steps, an indigenous Ghanaian dance which was inspired by the steps and movement of the antelope.

As part of our learning experiences, learners have been telling their own stories using the resources in our learning spaces. They have been extending these language activities into
Mathematics by counting the resources they use for their storytelling, as well as counting their favourite storybooks on our shelves.

KINDER 2
The Kinder 2 class is also inquiring into the unit, ‘Where We Are In Place and Time’ and are exploring ‘Artifacts’ with the Central Idea, ‘Interpretation of artifacts contributes to our understanding of people’s histories’. Learners have been discovering what artifacts are, where they can be found, how to analyse them, how they help us understand the past and why some choose to keep or discard artifacts. Learners are enjoying their experiences, as it allows them to feel and pretend to be ‘Mini Archaeologists’ who are diligently ‘excavating’, analysing, interpreting and sharing some Cultural, Family, Historical and Personal artifacts among themselves in class.

Learners discovering and sharing some family artifacts

KINDER 3
The Kinder 3 class is also inquiring into the unit, ‘Where We Are In Place and Time’, with the central idea, “Living creatures take journeys for different reasons”. This unit is focusing on some reasons why living creatures migrate. Learners start by inquiring into what living creatures are, with their prior knowledge, learners came up with different living creatures.
Learners were able to identify migration to be movement from an origin to a destination. Students extended their learning by counting to check the number of steps it takes to move from one point to another. As part of the inquiry process, learners inquired about some living creatures that migrate and why they migrate. This brought about learners inquiring into the different seasons and the times in the year.
ONYX (GRADE 1)

Just like the early years team, Grade 1 students are inquiring into the transdisciplinary theme, ‘Where We Are in Place and Time’. The focus of this unit is on exploration and the impact on people in modern times. It was an exciting time when learners shared pictures of their personal exploration journeys with their family and friends. They each researched famous explorers in the past and how their discoveries have contributed to the world’s knowledge. They connected their learning to Mathematics by learning how to use the calendar and tell the time. This has improved their sense of time as they are learning to improve their time management skills. The golden moment they are having now is to stage a drama about Christopher Columbus and how he mistakenly discovered America when his aim was to find a short route to India.

ONYX (GRADE 2)

In our current unit, ‘Where We are in Place and Time,’ we are exploring the physical features and its impact on the people and the animals around the world. The students have identified the seven continents and the oceans around the world. Through the student’s research skills, they have discovered the various disasters that occur in the landforms and all the water bodies around the world. The unit has motivated the students to create their own models of the different landforms like lakes, valleys, rivers, and volcanoes. Learners were engaged in fraction activities to deepen their understanding of the distribution of natural resources. They also made oral presentations on advantages and disadvantages of the special physical features and how they affect the physical environment.
Learners’ Inquiry into Physical features on the Earth

OPAL (GRADES 3 AND 4)

The current unit of inquiry for Opals is, ‘Who We Are’. The central idea for Grade 3 is, ‘Choices of role models reflect the beliefs and values of individuals and societies’, where students focus on their personal beliefs and values and how it affects their choice of role models as well as the influence of role models in their lives. The bigger picture in the unit is for students to understand that they can also be role models to other people when they exhibit certain desirable qualities worthy of emulation. We are working towards learners exhibiting the attributes of the learner profile which is designed to prepare students for the future.

The central idea for Grade 4 on the same unit, ‘Who We Are’, is, ‘Our behaviour and beliefs could be a result of our exposure to different cultural backgrounds’. Students have been exploring the different cultures around the world and how a person's cultural background affects their behaviour and beliefs. The bigger picture here is for students to understand and appreciate the uniqueness of other people's culture. Specific skills have been developed by students over the weeks in this unit. Most of the students have developed their
communication, social and research skills, as well as sharing great ideas through presentations.

**RUBY (GRADE 5)**
We are currently exploring the unit, “Who We Are”, with the central idea, “Understanding how our bodies work helps us to take good care of them”. In this unit, students are learning more about their bodies and inquiring deeper into their personal curiosities. Over the weeks, learners have gained an understanding of the systems within the human body and how they interact with each other for the normal functioning of the body. They inquired into different systems and shared their learning through a variety of ways; stories, presentations, recitals and also played interactive games to test their knowledge.

The focus of this unit is to allow learners to inquire into the functioning of the human body in order to take appropriate actions to stay healthy. To drive this unit, learners shared their wondering of the complexity of the human body and are being guided to find answers to their curiosities through learning engagements.

**RUBY (GRADE 6)**
Our culture plays a great role in our personality and how we interact with others. For this reason, learners in Grade 6 are inquiring into cultures around the world with the central idea,
‘Understanding different cultures guides towards the evolution of our beliefs and values’. Over the unit, ‘Who we are’, learners have gained an understanding of aspects of specific cultures around the world. They are inquiring into the lives of the people from various cultures, focusing on their values, norms, symbols, language, technology etc.

Learners are given the opportunity to explore their creativity by creating artistic pieces that represents particular cultures. By the end of this unit, learners will appreciate other cultures other than their own, as they work towards international mindedness. Below are some pictures from the culminating from Ruby (Grade 5&6) students’ inquiry.

At the end of every unit, learners share their understanding of the unit with the school community which we refer to as Unit Celebration. The first unit celebration for this semester will come off next week Friday. Students are ready to share great ideas they explored through the unit of inquiry. It is going to be an exciting time in our Happy School.
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
HOSTEL NEWS

Francis Hostel: Boys Respect the Steeze!!

Boys in the Francis Hostel have always demonstrated the ethos of dedication, sincerity and care for others. The Hostel inculcates a spirit of cooperation and respect for different cultures and individual personalities. Boys in the Francis hostel add a dimension of vigour and commitment to academics and extracurricular activities. Kudos to Sanjeevan Allotey and Kirk Saahene Osei for their selfless leadership. Please enjoy student’s reflections on hostel life.

My life is in Francis has been an amazing experience ever since I entered TIS. I did not expect to enjoy the hostel life as much but thanks to our hostel executives, Sanjee and Saahene, I have had one of the nicest hostel experiences. We had the opportunity to get hostel shirts in which for the first time I was able to get an activity shirt my size and the quality of the shirt being on point. I hope there are more enjoyable experiences in the coming years.
- William (MYP 5)

‘Life in the hostel has been amazing ever since I joined TIS in November 2019. From the hostel party we had last semester to the amazing hostel T-shirts we received last week, I can confidently say that Francis is the best hostel and with our two hostel executives, Sanjeevan and Saahene, who have continued to surprise us in every way. Life in the hostel just gets better and better.’ - Darren (MYP 5)
The past few weeks in the Francis Hostel have been relieving for me. When I first arrived, I was nervous. But as soon as I saw the nurses ask the students’ questions in relation to Covid-19, I immediately knew that the hostel was going to be safer than ever. I was hesitant to come to school because I did not like how school was during lockdown in March. However, the Francis Hostel has proven to be a safe and welcoming environment as it is. This is because our hostel prefects have organized the boys and kept the Francis Hostel spirit alive. The Francis ambiance helps a lot. Every day you see people smiling and laughing, playing music and dancing, even in such horrid times, and I think this is very important for one’s mental health. Of course, our hostel guardians too are not letting their eyes off us. I look forward to creating more enjoyable moments and memories with the boys amidst this pandemic.

Kelvin Ahiakpor (DP 1)

Life in Francis starts off as a difficult life to get accustomed to, as all the times of any and every school activity need to be strictly adhered to. Weekdays come with their own rush of keeping up with the bell, as well as performing all assigned hostel duties, from cleaning corridors to sweeping rooms and emptying trash cans. After inspection in the rooms, we head on to the MPH for our breakfast, and the meal starts at 8:00 am. After school on weekdays, we return to the hostels to change from the uniforms into our house outfits, and we are allowed to go and partake in any of the various After School Activities, which range from sowing to table tennis, and after the activities we are supposed to return to our hostels to bath and get ready for dinner at 6:15 pm. After dinner on weekdays we go for prep which also
starts at 7:00 pm and ends at 8:30 pm. Following prep, we return to our hostels to discuss about our days and also prepare for the next.

Life in Francis on weekends does not really differ from that on weekdays, excluding the washing and general cleaning that is done on weekends and not weekdays. We wash all our dirty clothes and clean our rooms; one can choose to do this before or after breakfast. After breakfast we return to the hostels to finish any duties we have.

Life in Francis is one that educates, as well as creates brotherhoods and bonds with both teachers and students alike. – Nkunim (DP 1)

‘Last Friday, the outgoing Francis hostel prefects put on one final display to wrap off their service towards the Francis hostel.

The evening before, Francis boys were called grade by grade in order to receive new Francis themed shirts. Two shirts were distributed to each and every Francis boy, including new students and were accurately sized. White shirts for the IB students and black shirts for MYP students. The two shirts do not represent a divide between seniors and juniors but an understanding and respect of the transition from the Middle Years Programme to the Diploma Programme.

The next day every single Francis boy arrived at school wearing the brand-new Francis shirts in a display of unity that certainly surprised the rest of the school. I believe it is displays of unity and brotherhood, such as these, that separate Francis from the rest’. – Quophi Yelbert DP1

‘Francis hostel so far has been exciting and a learning curve for me. Seeing familiar faces and making new friends makes me feel at home. Wearing out the Francis t-shirt with ‘Respect The Steeze’ inscription on it is a pride to hold. The sumptuous meal to bid farewell to our dedicated previous prefects was appetizing and the general experience is the best I have encountered so far from my hostel’. – Bradley Hoedoafia (MYP 4)

‘What is life like in the Francis hostel? Well, so far it’s been nothing short of thrilling, even though the current pandemic we are all battling is restricting a lot of social activities. The Francis hostel still makes life interesting from how friendly and approachable everyone is to the sending off party we just recently said goodbye to our previous passionate prefects. Members of Francis hostel family can be easily recognized by our down-to-detail t-shirt that embodies the true definition of steeze which we wear on Fridays. In conclusion, the Francis hostel experience is one that I would recommend to anyone who wants to have a memorable experience at Tema International School’. - Felvin Awuah Kwofie (MYP 4)
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
To Do List

FOCUS
WORK HARD
BE CREATIVE
OPEN YOUR MIND
SPREAD POSITIVITY
STAY AWAY FROM DRAMA
ENJOY THE LITTLE THINGS
PUT IN 100% EFFORT
TAKE CHANCES
SMILE MORE
BREATHE

FLIPANDSTYLE
Protect yourself and others from getting sick

Wash your hands

- after coughing or sneezing
- when caring for the sick
- before, during and after you prepare food
- before eating
- after toilet use
- when hands are visibly dirty
- after handling animals or animal waste
**Theory of Knowledge in The Real World**

G11 students carried out a TOK exhibition where they showcased how TOK manifests in the world around us. Each student identified three specific objects of significance in a real-world context, and wrote commentaries linking these objects to an Internal Assessment prompt. The selected prompts were picked out of 35 prompts provided by the International Baccalaureate.

Students created exhibitions that were interesting and meaningful to them personally. The exhibition was hosted on the school campus where the school community interacted with exhibitors. There was a high level of enthusiasm as students took the audience through their exhibitions, explaining how each object connected with their IA prompt.

**Students’ Reflections**

**The Station of Knowledge**

Someone will see the tile of my reflection and ask why I call it the “Station of Knowledge”? I learnt a whole lot from the process leading to those two hours of exhibition and during the exhibition itself. My IA prompt was, “Does our knowledge depend on our interactions with other knowers?” It was a joy explaining to people what I knew about my prompt and it was just easy and nice to listen to the wisdom other people had to share. I believe that TOK is a very important aspect of the IB Diploma Programme. It makes you think deeper to validate what you claim to know. I personally had to do
loads of research into my IA prompt. It may be stressful setting up and everything, but it was worth it. I left the exhibition with the satisfaction that I had shared the knowledge I had with other people. I honestly encourage the incoming DP students to take TOK seriously to understand how it works and apply it to their daily lives, be it in school or at home. It does really answer some of the questions we ask ourselves day in day out.

The TOK exhibition was also an opportunity for students to take control of their own learning and express themselves as knowers. It also enabled students to build authentic relationships between themselves and students in other grades who have not had the opportunity to study TOK yet. The exhibition also offered teachers to see and make TOK connections with their own subjects and to actualize the saying that all teachers are TOK teachers.

~ David Safo
Does some knowledge belong only to particular communities of knowers?

Theory of Knowledge (TOK) plays a vital role in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme (DP). However, DP1 had an exhibition and I would like to share my experience. It was hectic from the beginning, selecting a prompt and linking it to an object. However, the TOK exhibition was a very informative session. We had various teachers and students come to our posters and comment, as well as giving us new ideas to improve our work.

Overall, it was a great experience and I am looking forward to our final exhibition. I was able to build my communication skills because teachers and students who are not in my grade were able to interact with me.

~Theodora Tekpor
The IB learner profile represents 10 attributes valued by IB World Schools. We believe these attributes, and others like them, can help individuals and groups become responsible members of local, national and global communities.

**INquirers**
We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.

**Open-minded**
We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.

**Knowledgeable**
We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

**Critical Thinking**
We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

**Communicators**
We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

**Principled**
We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

**Caring**
We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.

**Risk-takers**
We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.

**Balanced**
We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives—intellectual, physical, and emotional—to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.

**Reflective**
We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

As IB learners we strive to be:

*International Baccalaureate®*
THINGS I CAN CONTROL

THINGS OUTSIDE MY CONTROL

COVID-19

Global Pandemics

OTHER PEOPLE’S ACTIONS

OTHER PEOPLE’S OPINIONS

OTHER PEOPLE’S FEELINGS

OTHER PEOPLE’S MISTAKES

ADVERSITY

My Attitude

My Behaviour

My Actions

My Effort

Logging onto ManageBac
SERVICE

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
CAS-SA Corner

Thanksgiving Service, 2021 – What are you grateful for?

I am grateful to be back on campus. I am grateful for my life, family and friends. I am grateful for God's blessings. Adeline Adjei, G11

Thanking the almighty God for my journey through TIS my final year in TIS is what shows that he has been with me from the beginning to the end. He has done wonderful things for me, and he deserves all the glory and honour. Elizabeth Anatsui, G12

Thanking God for bringing me to this point in my life and putting me in the position in life to be able to attend TIS. I am also grateful for family, friends and the many opportunities, = I have been given in TIS. Jason Boateng, G10

I am so grateful for how far I’ve come, surviving the whole 2020. I’m also very grateful for TIS and the many opportunities they have offered to us students regardless of the pandemic. Finally, I’m grateful for family and friends for supporting me throughout all my endeavours. Maame Ama, G10

I am thankful to God for taking me through the journey of life and giving me opportunities that make me a better person. I am also grateful for my family, friends and TIS. Nana Akua Adjei Boadu, G10

I’m grateful for friends, family and the opportunities I’ve enjoyed over the past few years. I’m also grateful for my good health and being alive despite the pandemic. I give thanks to God for how far he has brought me. Agormah Agambire, G10

I am grateful for the lives of my family and friends. I’m thankful to God for taking us through an unexpected circumstances and I believe that he will continue to keep us through. Araba Egyei-Mensah, G11
Principal, School Board, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff, Parents, and Students thank you all for joining us virtually for this induction service. We would also like to say thank you for your support and encouragement throughout our tenure as the 2020 Student Council.

A Legacy. Every council that is elected and inducted always dares to be different. We all hope to challenge the status quo throughout our time. In our minds, the same question resounds: “How can I make other people’s lives better and have a meaningful impact on them?”

Well, after our tenure, each one of us standing here today knows one thing is for sure. Leadership is not about the qualities you exhibit, but your daily behaviour. Each day we set off to empower and lift the student body. That is the essence of our council and leadership in general.

Our tenure as a council was certainly an unusual time as the global pandemic hit. Inducted on 26 January 2020 and then we had a nationwide lockdown during March to resume school and our duties on campus on 15 January 2021. One thing that makes me proud is that our council adapted. Before the lockdown, our resilient academic executives alongside the math department organized a pi day celebration. The hostel executives increased hostel spirit as the Catherine and Cecilia executives organized a talent show and games night with activities like musical chairs and a Valentine’s Day Special event with their sisters which consisted of food and drinks. The male hostel executives organized a hostel party to have fun with the boys. In the area of Chapel and religious affairs, an initiative called Faith Friday was begun by the council’s very own woman of God. There was an increased level of discipline and equity in the MPH with the introduction of junior and senior lines to combat crossing. Additionally, the food options increased and become more inclusive.
Our council understood that with leadership, a strategy is more important than speed so when the pandemic hit and our lives went virtual, we went back to the drawing board. The Cecilia executives organized a virtual girl talk with their little sisters, our Head Academic Executive, Salma, posted weekly study tips and advice on excelling online in the weekly bulletin. As new students joined the family we began a video series called seven questions with the student council to enable the TIS family to learn about each other and connect virtually. The Francis executives created shirts for their hostel. The Catherine Executives had an introductory session with the newbies and created subsets of the TIS family that they could get better acquainted with. As a council we produced videos introducing ourselves, welcoming back the student body, and even discussing topics like leadership in TIS.

But most importantly as leaders, we modelled the way, inspired a shared vision of peace and joy in student life and affairs. We enabled people to act and most of all encouraged the hearts of the students and staff at times. We led through example. We were role models for the students and made the school more welcoming and suitable.

To our dedicated class reps, know that your journey of leadership does not end here. Know that you were integral to the success of our council and hope you have grown, developed some ATL skills or IB learner profile attributes. Run again and experience a new council, when you have the chance take on other leadership positions in sports, academics, CAS, and hostel life and become the next council executives.

So, to the incoming council, your journey begins, and realize it is a journey of growth. I say seek first to understand your fellow students, and then try to be understood. You will develop essential life skills and realize listening to what is not being said by students. Don’t discard anything. Everything in life is supposed to teach you something.

Continuity is important so the things that we planned to do but could not achieve we will pass on. Plans of Academic Decathlons, Catherine Picnics, Spelling Bees, SAT preparation, Mathletics, Intercolour competitions, Accountability partners, new game tables in the hostel. New gym equipment, a Church dance group, and a carnival during the first week of the new academic year. Student Council of 2021, we hand it over to you. What you can achieve amidst the COVID-19 restrictions do so and what you can’t, pass it on.

To excel, love the school and the students who are in it. For true alignment to take place, your people have to know and trust your heart. I think John Maxwell said it best. “You and I are either a plus in people’s lives or a minus”.

For the people, of the people, by the people. At the beginning of our tenure, I said these words would be the driving force behind our reign and they were. Thank you to everyone who helped us during our tenure and we are looking forward to seeing the new heights TIS will reach.

HOC - Lydia Boahen – G12
HOC Address – Student Council, 2021

It’s our privilege to address you on such a special occasion, founding family, Principal Dr Ken, staff, teachers, outgoing student council, proud parents, alumni, fellow students and viewers around the world, good morning.

To the previous Council, we thank you. We thank you for your time, your commitment, your resilience and most of all your example.

We stand here today as your newly elected council. Secretary, Hostel executives, Academics, Chaplaincy, Sports – but who are these people you have elected and who do they plan to be?

As an institution you couldn’t have selected classier ladies, you will see the same determination, skills and eloquence they will use to balance their partnering roles exhibited in the harmony Essilfua and Lady Margaret plan to revive in the Cecilia hostel.

Cynthia and Lena, the perfect pair, perfect examples of poise, finesse and decorum. These bubbly and friendly two are extremely capable of nurturing the young Catherinites into sophisticated ladies.

Abdul and Kevin, two gentlemen taking charge in the Anthony hostel: it is easy for the juniors to look up to them as their new big brothers helping them in their new found home.

Though alone, Kelvin is more than capable of balancing both roles and taking charge in the Francis hostel, he is a natural born leader who will sail this journey with ease.

The epitome of the sports sector, despite the barriers before them, with their inquisitive and creative minds, Amanda and Lyman are determined to create new ways to bring the TIS sports spirit back to life.

Kind-hearted, patient, loving, Adeline, ready to hold your hand as you discover your faith, a walking example of the fruits of the spirit.

You will never go hungry as Michelle never disappoints; her punctuality and patience are just a few reasons why she is the right monarch to govern the MPH.

It’s not only their brains that make Apewe and Kwame fit for this role but their drive and positivity that create a welcoming atmosphere in the after hours spent in the classroom.

She is small but mighty, with her excellent people skills Ekua is ready to ensure everything is on track, every plan organised and everyone up to tas.
Who could forget the brave and dedicated **class representatives** who will do well to act us a liaison between the council and the student body.

And finally as your co-HOC’s, we will vouch with and for you. We will be people who will lead by example, who listen, who with your help, hope to solve solutions together.

To staff and students alike we would like to reassure you that we are ready to listen so please speak to us, we are ready to negotiate so please be ready to cooperate. We know that we will face many challenges. especially those which the current global pandemic presents, but just as the previous council stood firm and crafted solutions, such as the online assembly, we too will learn from their example and will grow to become better examples.

It wasn’t by chance that the IB class of 2022 was named the pioneers. The people you see here aren’t just eager servants, good leaders and good listeners, but we are pacemakers, change makers, and new found creators. We are the 2021 student council ready to pioneer a new era.

**HOC – David Safo & Hedia Dickson – G12**
I feel elated to have been elected as a member of the incoming Student Council. I am glad to have been given this opportunity. I hope to become more conversant with public speaking and communicating messages to a large number of people. I also hope to balance my responsibilities with academic and non-academic work. As a Class Representative, I am the bridge between my class mates and the Council. I am going to ensure effective communication between my mates and the council and avoid misunderstanding. **Deborah Gomado, G11**

I feel honoured and blessed to be named as the Male Head of Student Council. It has been a dream since I drove through the gates of this school. When I first arrived in G9, the Student Council was so welcoming and made each and every new student feel at home. I want to emulate those traits. I aim at making each and everyone feel comfortable and worthwhile. In these trying times that we are in, people do not feel as though there are goals and dreams to achieve. I want to take that negative view they have of the pandemic and use it to their advantage. I plan on helping them develop a growth mindset, to motivate them to dream and take action. I want to be the voice of the student body, I want to be that leader where people will do the right thing when I am not around and to be a leader who is opened to criticism and change. Forever ready to learn and grown from every situation. **David Safo, G11**

I feel overwhelmed, shocked and excited about being elected as the Head Academics Executive. I am bringing on board my leadership skills and communication skills to ensure that prep and all other academic activities are followed accordingly so we can all strive towards a common goal of academic excellence. I decided to run for the position because I aim in developing my leadership skills and also improve my public speaking skills. This leadership role can teach me skills to lead effectively, including the often-tricky skills needed to persuade and influence people — even those over whom you have little direct authority. Leadership widens thinking abilities to develop my thinking skills in innovative and creative ways. **Apewe Chigabatia, G11**

I feel really excited, joyous, cheerful, delighted and curious. I am obliged to have been given this position. Elected as Class Rep of G8, I will bring ideas in order to make the school comfortable for everyone. I decided to run for this position because no one in my grade wanted to run and I didn’t want the grade to be without a class rep. I also desire to have my fellow colleagues' voices heard and I want to share ideas with the other council members. **Aisha Hussien, G8**

As an elected Head of the Student Council Executive, I feel very accomplished because I was able to overcome all the obstacles. However, I am worried that I don't meet the students' expectations, that the pressure and stress might overwhelm me and change me. I'm bringing a 'green light' attitude, meaning as a council we want to do things and we are going to try everything in our power to do them, this doesn't mean we are going to cheat or go behind
authority but when the light turns yellow/red we are either waiting for it to be green or we are taking another route. I decided to run because I believe my skills can be best applied effectively in this position. Hedia Dickson, G11

Being elected as the Sports Executive feels like I’ve accomplished a milestone in my TIS journey. I am overjoyed at the fact that I am granted the opportunity to share my love for sports with the rest of the community. I decided to run for this position because I’ve always wanted a leadership role that allows me to share my love for something I enjoy. I have a few ideas that can hopefully make sports at TIS be more inclusive, thrilling, and comply with Covid-19 Protocols. For example, including more non-contact sporting activities, making the gym available & organized and possibly collaborating with the PYP students. Although Covid-19 has put a strain on the activities we are allowed to do, I hope your sporting experience at TIS becomes memorable! Amanda Agambire, G11

I feel extremely humbled to be elected as the Francis Hostel Executive. I plan to bring more discipline by letting the boys embody the Francis spirit. I ran for this position because I want to make the hostel a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. I want the hostel to be united as one and I do not want anyone to feel like they are entitled to one thing more than another. I will also encourage the students in the hostel to take advantage of the facilities in TIS and use it to develop or pick up new skills. Kelvin Ahiakpor, G11

I must say that I was not sure about it at first as there were rumours going around that I was going to be one of the next academic executives, however, when it was announced on Wednesday morning, I felt this sense of happiness and accomplishment. This is because when I came to TIS in Grade 9, I was really shy, reserved and did not open up to people and more importantly, I played down any opportunity of taking up any leadership position that was available. However, watching the various student councils perform their duties on a daily basis inspired me to want to become a leader, help people and more importantly, leave a legacy of in TIS. What am I bringing on board? My main plan of action will be to integrate the student body, especially our newbies into the TIS family. This is because due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in Ghana, our newbies were not able to ‘fully’ experience life in TIS in the first semester as most students had to resort to online learning. I will, therefore, ensure that I play an integral role in helping all student settle in especially with respect to their studying time during prep. I will work hand-in-hand with the other executive and teacher on duty during prep to ensure that all classrooms, especially the DP block, are well-fumigated immediately after school in preparation for prep. Finally, I want to ensure that each student is very comfortable and not afraid to approach their fellow grade-mates, especially as and when they need help. In order to enable me achieve this, I will create an opportunity for students in all grades who are good academically, or in certain subjects, the opportunity to volunteer to become peer tutors in their
respective grades in order to offer help to their grade-mates who may need some help with certain subject-areas. Watching my predecessors help other people settle into life at TIS regarding their studies is what inspired me to also take up this responsibility to serve the student body and, in the process, also be of help to other people settling into the TIS family. Kwame Asafo-Adjei, G11

I was officially announced as 11 D Class representative this morning, and I must say that I was quite shocked. Even though I was sure of myself and my vetting, I thought I might not get the position due to the fact that I am a newbie. Regardless of these feelings, I am elated that it was given to me at the end of everything. As I said in my application essay, I want to be the voice of the people, any people. I plan on discussing pressing matters with the Student Council as a way to start the process of change. Homeroom meetings will not just be considered another 'free period', but rather a place where one can express themselves to the maximum. I bring the satisfaction in knowing that a problem or idea will truly be solved or implemented. The satisfaction of being heard as a single individual in a sea of students. The satisfaction of freedom and liberty. My role in this school may be small, but I have big big plans for 11D. J’dył Vanette Vicker, G11

MYP 5 Service as Action
As introduced in the previous bulletin, MYP 5 Service as Action students are culminating this semester with a transition worksheet that reflects their growth process from the start of their MYP Year to the current. The transition worksheet explores student’s opinions on how they have grown through the Service as Action program. Read below Daniel Markin Jnr’s thoughts.

How have you grown through your Service as Action experience?

Service as Action has made me more open to other people’s views and values and finding ways to cope with them. I used to be very close-fisted to opinions, because I always believed my solution was the only and better way of approaching a problem, but the more I collaborated with people, I learnt from them and them and realized there are different sides to issues.

Service as Action has also taught me to push towards achieving my set objectives. I used to have that challenge of finishing a task because I am always procrastinating but going through this experience I learnt we have to persevere to attain what we want. I was taught we should always remember the purpose for which we engaged in that activity and let that drive us towards our goals.

Daniel Markin Jnr, G10
Community Project and Personal Project Exhibition

By way of supporting our Grade 8s and 10s MYP Projects, the entire TIS community is entreated to like and comment on students projects on Instagram via the handle @tismyp_projects_exhibition.

Due to the pandemic, this year’s MYP Projects exhibitions will take a different form. There is an ongoing virtual presentation on Instagram. Kindly take a trip to the page and take a tour to appreciate the different Community and Personal Projects ideas that have been implemented.

Sports Highlights by Joel Adjei and Oluteniore Olufode

Enjoy the sports commentary on the England League Championships for Match day Week 22 and Week 23.

Top Highlights from Matchweek 22

- **Manchester United** hit 9 past 9-men **Southampton**. An early red card for the teenager, Alex Jankewitz, in under two minutes into the game and Jan Bednarek in the 87th minute opened a very nice gate for Manchester United to secure a very huge win at Old Trafford for the second time in their history.

- Joao Moutinho secured the win for Wolves against 9 men Arsenal after a banger he scored in the 49th minute.

- **Crystal Palace came** from behind to secure the win at St James Park against **Newcastle United**.

- **Liverpool** shocked after defeat to Brighton at Anfield.

- Thomas Tuchel gets his second win as new **Chelsea** boss against struggling **Tottenham** at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium after a precise spot kick penalty by Jorginho.

- Jesse Lingard gets on the scoresheet twice on his **West Ham** debut.

The table shows the results after match day 22.
Top Highlights from Matchweek 23

- Premier League official, Mike Dean, received death threats after awarding a red card to West Ham skipper, Tomáš Souček, after he mistakenly elbowed Aleksandar Mitrović in the eye.
- Manchester United defender, Axel Tuanzebe, received more racial abuse after an error leading to the Everton draw at Old Trafford.
- Takumi Minamino and Joe Willock scored on their respective debuts in the Southampton and Newcastle match. Takumi for Southampton and Joe for Newcastle.
- Jesse Lingard scored twice on his West Ham United debut in a 3-1 win at Villa Park.
- A very tough pill to swallow for Manchester United as they failed to secure three points after a late goal from Everton’s number 9 (Calvert-Lewin) saw the match end 3-3 on Saturday evening at Old Trafford.
- Manchester City discipline Klopp's (Head Coach Liverpool) poor form by Liverpool with a thrashing 4-1 victory at Anfield. This win allowed them to go 5 good points clear of Manchester United who had failed to keep the gap at three points with their draw.
- Thomas Tuchel gets his third win as Chelsea boss with a hard fought win over Sheffield Manchester United winning 2-1 at Bramall Lane.
- Arsenal lose to Aston Villa 1-0 at Villa Park.
- 10 men Newcastle hold on to get a 3-2 win over Southampton at the St Mary’s Park.

CAS Experience
Chocolate Friendship Day – 20 February 2021

Chocolate Friendship Day is one of the most popular students’ events in TIS. It is our favourite time of the school year where we all bond and strengthen our friendships through the sharing of chocolates.

Due to the pandemic, we had to devise a new method different from the tradition we know in order to reduce contact. As a committee, we came up with many different ideas and eventually narrowed it down to one: making the whole event digital. This year, online forms were created for each class sets and we reduced the chocolate items. We will also label the chocolates and bag them on stipulated days.

With great power comes great responsibility, and as IB students, we encountered challenges because change can be hard sometimes but we have learnt to adapt. We believe this year’s event will be one of its kind. You are all encouraged to check out ManageBac messages for more info and direction. Stay tuned for the outcome!

Araba Egyei-Mensah and Chelsea Somuah – CFD Committee leaders
Black History Month has reached TIS shores, a CAS initiative directed towards promoting international mindedness. Celebrated mainly in the US, UK and Canada, it takes place in the entire month of February and celebrates the astounding achievements and strides made by the African Diaspora. The Month originated from ‘Negro History Week’ and was initiated by Carter G. Woodson in 1926.
Each week, the BHM team will feature some key historical information surrounding BHM celebrations to not only educate you, but to entertain you. This week’s article features Africa prior to slavery. It is known that before the first Europeans landed on the shores of our continent, Africans had already established complex and highly integrated systems that the people of ancient Africa operated with. Most people have the notion that Africa was a continent full of unintelligent simple-minded savages, scavenging around. To say this line of thinking is untrue would be an understatement. Africa had already set up large wealthy empires, religious systems and had monarchs that no single human in history and modern day could match up.

Religion played and still continues to play a very pertinent role in African culture. Before Western religion was introduced to Africans, they already had systems of worship. A distinct group, The Orishas will be in focus for this article. The Orishas are a group of spirits in the native Yoruba religion (also found in the Ewe culture from Ghana, Voduns from Benin and Togo) sent by Olodumare (the god of the Yoruba religion). They were sent to protect and guide humanity as they navigate their way through life and find success in it. Orishas found their way into the new world thanks to the Trans-Atlantic Slave trade.

Next, let’s discuss the rich and vast empires established like the Ghana and Mali empires. The Ghana empire (original name being the Wagadou empire while the ruler was named Ghana) was a West-African empire situated around modern day Mauritania and Western Mali. It gained all of its wealth through the Trans-Saharan trade, specifically in their trade of gold and salt that allowed their large ‘modern’ cities to grow.

Unfortunately, The Ghana empire fell woefully in the 12th century after a series of civil wars, droughts, establishment of far away trade routes and finally, the breaking point of the empire, the rise of the Sosso Kingdom (1180-1235 CE).

They paved way for the creation of the Mali Empire (1235-1670 CE). The Mali Empire was arguably the most affluent and largest West-African empire, founded by Sundiata Keita (The Lion King) and covered a stretch of land now inhabited by Guinea, Senegal, Gambia, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Niger, etc. It is known for the lavishness of its rulers (especially Musa I), its military strength and its urbanisation. The land was so wealthy that they struggled to utilise their gold dust and salt deposits. The empire also increased the Islamic faith within West Africa.
As previously established, though the Mali empire was great, the death of Mansa Musa began to create a dent in the administrative power of the empire, one that was never be fixed. The empire became a victim of conquest and declined drastically in its African continental influence. The establishment of other trade centres fractured the empire’s economic value. The Moroccan Empire took over the area, ending four centuries of its existence.

It is only right that the man behind the greatness of the Mali Empire, Mansa Musa, is featured. Musa I was the 10th Mansa (King of Kings) of the Mali Empire from 1312-1337 C.E and is considered currently as the wealthiest man to have lived (with an estimated wealth of over $400 billion). Majority of his wealth came from the mining of gold, salt and investing in ivory. His wealth was so stupendous that upon his visit to the Sultan of Egypt, the gold he distributed in the land reduced the value of gold in Egypt for more than a decade. His visit to Mecca perhaps was the most notable event in his reign. His 1324 visit to Mecca put the Mali empire on the map and made it known to the European World. He also established Timbuktu and Gao and developed them into important trade centres.

Finally, let us delve into the discoveries made in ancient Africa that have not been given the recognition they deserve. In math, scholars of ancient Egypt were able to estimate the value of pie to be 3.16 and considered it to have 360 degrees. In astronomy, Egyptians also charted the rotation of the sun and moon cycles. Using these, they were able to create what we now know as the calendar. Ancient Africa also birthed many of the medicines we use today. They were able to discover the use of salicylic acid to relieve pain (aspirin) amongst others.

Now it is important that historical facts like these become common knowledge to us. This way, no more sand can be thrown into the eyes of black people. Ignorance to what we were will not direct us into the light of what we, as the black race can be.

Bibliography


TIS Red Cross First Aid Workshop is ongoing. 19 DP1 register for the 1st training.

TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

GHANA RED CROSS SOCIETY

FIRST AID TRAINING WORKSHOP, February 2021

DAY 1 - PRE-TEST
HISTORY OF RED CROSS & GHANA RED CROSS
PRINCIPLES OF RED CROSS
INTRODUCTION TO FIRST AID

DAY 2 - UNCONSCIOUSNESS
SHOCK,
FAINTING
ABC/CPR
BLEEDING/WOUNDS
ASTHMA/CONVULSION

DAY 3 - FRACTURE/DISLOCATION
POISONING,
BURNS/SCALDS
DROWNING/CHOKING
BLEEDING/WOUNDS
SPRAIN/STRAIN

DAY 4 - PRACTICAL
USAGE OF THE NEW EMERGENCY LINE
COVID EDUCATION
CASUALTIES: MANAGMENTS

The tasks of the Federation can therefore be summarized as follows:
1. to promote humanitarian principles and values
2. to provide relief assistance in emergency situations of large magnitude
3. to support the national societies with disaster preparedness through the education of voluntary members and the provision of equipment and relief supplies
4. to support local health care projects
5. to support the national societies with youth-related activities

The Seven Basic principles of RED CROSS

- Humanity
- Impartiality
- Neutrality
- Independence
- Voluntary Service
- Unity
- Universality
The TIS Family celebrates Mr Adolph Amoah

RIP my darling…

Only if I had known… On Thursday around 1pm, I was taking my usual walk around the campus. I bumped into him around the ‘Learning Centre’. He was cheerful as always, with that genuine smile. He got closer and whispered, which was his usual way… “Mama Su… the heartbeat of TIS, my birthday is in few days, just a day after your brother’s. This year I will be 71”.

I thanked him for the reminder and he asked about my brother that he has never met before. The only relation between them really, is the fact that they share the same birth month.

Well, he always asked about my family back in Brazil or Lisbon. He knew each one of them due to the conversations we have had all these years. He loved to share stories about his life and the time he lived in Germany, I spoke about my life in Brazil and my family that I left behind when I moved to Ghana almost 20 years ago. Every interaction with him no matter how short was joyful, intentional and ended with a good laughter.

He was a great story teller and was genuinely interested in the wellbeing of others. He was someone who loved TIS to the core. I recall when I first came to TIS almost 11 years ago, he was one of those who made me feel at home despite the fact he was a part time teacher. The first CAS office was at the Handel and Picasso Block, after the Piano room. Mr Amoah would ask me if I had a few minutes to chat; if I was well; if I needed any help.

He knew that English was not my first language and I was struggling with writing. He offered to proof read my emails. He often congratulated me when I spoke in public, or when he read any of my writings. He would say, “you are improving, I am proud of you. Keep learning.”
The TIS Family celebrates Mr Adolph Amoah

When I got admission in HGSE, he celebrated with me as a father would with his daughter.

When I returned from my trip, I visited his office to share the experience with him and he reminded me about the value of working towards one’s dream and the importance of waiting.

During school play rehearsals, especially our various musicals, Mr. Amoah was always enthusiastic and reminded me to enjoy the process. “Don’t stress, Mama Su,” he would say. “Eventually everything will be fine, trust the process.” He was always right.

Whenever I feel overwhelmed, and take my walks around the school to think and refresh, the orchestra room is one of my happy places.

Talking to him, taking pictures with him, or of him and his students was one of my favourite moments.

For his birthday this year, I was planning to print all those pictures and display them on the walls of the orchestra room. I kept postponing this. Now, I wish I did it in good time.

I heard the news of your passing almost at the same spot we spoke last week… To say I was devastated is an understatement. My soul is weeping. A Mentor is gone. The best cheerleader is gone. The kindest teacher is gone.

I am grateful for all the moments I spent with you Mr. Amoah. I am grateful for the opportunity to know you and work with you. You taught me to be kind, patient, to love and believe in people regardless, and always, always lead with love. What an amazing gentleman you were.

Rest In Peace, my darling. Only if I had known that the last time we met was the last time, I would have reminded you of how precious you were. I would have started our violin classes we had been planning for the past 10 years. I would have hugged you tight.
The TIS Family celebrates Mr Adolph Amoah

Rest In Peace my darling. You were a father figure; a role model and mentor to many. You left a legacy of love with all those you met in TIS and beyond. Your students will miss you dearly. The CAS-SA team will forever cherish your visits to our office and how you appreciated every opportunity you took to offer your assistance. We love you.

Heaven’s orchestra will welcome you. The TIS orchestra will grow stronger to honour your legacy. I will make sure those pictures will be displayed on the walls of the orchestra room, especially the ones with the PYP music students. They gave you so much hope for the future of music in Ghana.

Sleep well my humble, committed, knowledgeable, selfless, talented, principled, reflective, hardworking and caring gentleman. Rest In Peace, Mr Adolph Amoah. **Surama King – CAS Coordinator – 2 February, 2021**

Mr. Amoah was not just my “violin teacher” - he was my friend. The friend who would do a little jump, throw his hands up and shriek, “Oh-feibeaaa”, each time I walked into the music room unannounced. The one who never hesitated to ask for help even if it was to save a word document. The friend who always cheered me on - in everything. Mr. Amoah was kind, patient, gentle and helpful; he was sweet, funny, humble and talented. I loved walking into the Handel-Picasso block to watch him play. He would sway gently from left to right as his fingers quivered across the strings, producing effortless vibratos - I looked on in awe. Watching him was a reminder of what was possible with hard-work, dedication and love.

Words are honestly insufficient to capture the pureness of his soul and the role he played in our lives; perhaps, it should be done in song. Sleep well, Mr Amoah. Experiencing you was a blessing. ~ **Ofeibea Sakyi-Addo - IB class of 2016.**
The TIS Family celebrates Mr Adolph Amoah

Mr. Amoah was a kind and gentle person. He knew what each student needed and mentored each of us accordingly. He knew when to fill the room with conversation and when to listen. He knew when to let me play to cope with my emotions, and when to talk about them.

He served as a source of refuge for me in high school. I loved walking into his tiny music room and seeing him busy at work. He would sit behind his desk and meticulously plan out his schedule for the week. He would write down all our names and times in pencil. There wasn’t a day random pencil shavings weren’t lying on the table. He would be excited for every lesson and would even write out tailored viola scripts for me.

On days I didn’t want to talk, or I was feeling down, he would notice through my music. He would tell me he can feel something is wrong and he would encourage me to be strong. He treated me like a star pupil even when I wasn’t, he taught me that we are all great. And greatness takes practice.

He realized potential I couldn’t see until later in life, and it saddens me I never got to say thank you for all the things he did for me. He was the definition of a person you experience once in a lifetime, and I’m honored to have been his student. And I’ll always miss him.  ❤️ ~ Mary-Anne - IB Class of 2016.

Mr. Amoah was a blessing on earth and the most patient teacher I’ve ever had. I’ll always remember how gentle he was in teaching me how to play the violin and how much I loved seeing him play the violin.

I’m extremely blessed that we crossed paths and for the difference he made in my life. May he rest in perfect peace. ~Melinda – IGCSE Class of 2014

“Mr. Amoah was a great inspiration to me. He was a great teacher and was always full of encouragement. I’m so grateful I got to be his student and I will always remember his impact. Rest in Peace to a wonderful teacher. - Anna– Maria Poku – IB Class of 2018.
The TIS Family celebrates Mr Adolph Amoah

The most prominent quality I remember of Mr Amoah was his gentleness. It sounds underwhelming but for some reason there was so much power in the softness of his actions and its spectacular ability to prompt action. In retrospect, this is what initially attracted me to him and his tutelage. Mr. Amoah not only had a wealth of experience in the industry, but a deep-seated passion to share this with his students.

Under his auspices in the TIS orchestra, I learnt invaluable lessons that will forever remain ingrained in my mind. Undoubtedly, he has left behind a wonderful legacy of kindling and fanning a passion for orchestral music in many people and we mourn the death of a talented musician, a dedicated educator, and a caring elder.

Though the impact of Mr. Amoah’s loss ricochets around the walls of the TIS community, I take pride in the fact that his legacy will never be forgotten and will be lived out each time a student of his plays their instrument. **Naa Momo – Class of 2018**

It was a shock to hear Mr. Amoah has passed away because I spoke to him the Friday, 29 January.

There was no single day Mr. Amoah would see you and not ask of the family though he hadn't seen any of them before. I will always remember him for his humility and smiles. Rest well, Mr. Amoah. You will be missed. May your gentle soul rest in peace.  
**Aunty Gina – Staff**
Mr Amoah was a man who was passionate about music. He was always coming up with creative ways to help us learn how to sight read and to learn musical techniques. He was one of the sweetest people I had ever met in my life: he was kind and friendly and always smiling. He always saw the best in everyone and was constantly encouraging us when we struggled with other aspects of IB life.

His passing came as a shock to me: the last time I saw him, were making plans for our next practice session. Even now, it doesn't feel real that he's really gone and that I'm never going to see him again. At least he's in a better place now. May his soul rest in perfect peace and may those who knew him best heal and find the strength to move on.

Ivana Anane, G12

I’ve truly been rocked by this. It was only a few weeks ago I decided that I’ll try and contact you. I kept on procrastinating and now I will no longer have that chance, Mr. Amoah. Mr. Amoah was a special man, he was kind, caring and always there for a conversation. Originally ours was strictly a student-teacher relationship, but eventually it blossomed into something more as we learned more about each other. He told me all about his travels in Vienna, California and London, to name a few, and I constantly shared with him my dreams. A patient man, he was ever ready to listen to me go on and on.

We spoke a lot about what learning the violin was like for him in those early days. And I saw how ready he was to impart the knowledge he held. I learned a great deal from him, many many things which now I am ashamed to say I do not practise enough, but sadly there was still a great deal I didn’t learn.

Our community is at loss, loss for one of the brightest and loveliest people to ever pass through it. For me, he was a beacon of light showing me what I could be, and all that was achievable if you put your mind towards it. He was a pure soul. One that will dearly be missed, one that shall never be forgotten.

Thank you for your patience, kindness and love. I am at peace knowing that you are up in heaven, resting.

Juku Attionu – IB Class of 2019
Mr. Amoah for many, including myself, was one of the kindest and gentlest people I have ever met. I remember when I initially decided I wanted to take up learning how to play an instrument. It was my warm interaction with Mr. Amoah that made me settle on the violin. During our private lessons, as frustrating as it could get to teach me, he always maintained a patient and calm demeanour. I’m never going to forget when I told him about my Mum’s birthday and he offered to teach me to play the birthday song so I could later play at her party. As trivial as it may sound, it meant a lot to me that he was willing to help me make my Mum’s day special. I remember when he expressed to me that he wanted me to play a piece during Expression after about a month of lessons. I was petrified by the thought of embarrassing myself but he continued to pour out words of encouragement until the very last moment before my performance. This is a very sad moment because you are not physically present with us to hear how much we love and appreciate you, but I hope somehow this message still gets to you in heaven. Mamle Kwao – IB Class of 2019
DofE CORNER

Due to the increasing active Covid-19 cases in Ghana, Tema International School Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award won’t be able to have our Voluntary Service and Residential Projects as we used to. However, as a DofE participant the award program has taught and guided us to be flexible and to able to adjust in any situation we find ourselves in especially this new normal.

You still can meet your Voluntary Service and Residential Projects requirements while social distancing and observing all the Covid-19 protocols.

Here are some local and international virtual projects you can volunteer towards at the comfort of your home or school. Participants who are already involved in CAS projects or Community Projects can login it in to their Online Record Book as Volunteering service or Residential Project based on the impact.

Teaching Online
https://www.givingway.com/search.give?searchMode=online&onlineTaskSubtype%5B0%5D=19

Writing Content
https://www.givingway.com/search.give?searchMode=online&onlineTaskSubtype%5B0%5D=6&onlineTaskSubtype%5B1%5D=7&onlineTaskSubtype%5B2%5D=8&onlineTaskSubtype%5B3%5D=11&onlineTaskSubtype%5B4%5D=13&onlineTaskSubtype%5B5%5D=15&onlineTaskSubtype%5B6%5D=16

Social Media Campaign
https://www.givingway.com/search.give?searchMode=online&onlineTaskSubtype%5B0%5D=9&onlineTaskSubtype%5B1%5D=10

Research
https://www.givingway.com/search.give?searchMode=online&onlineTaskSubtype%5B0%5D=14&onlineTaskSubtype%5B1%5D=18

Designing
https://www.givingway.com/search.give?searchMode=online&onlineTaskSubtype%5B0%5D=0&onlineTaskSubtype%5B1%5D=1&onlineTaskSubtype%5B2%5D=2

Video Creation
https://www.givingway.com/search.give?searchMode=online&onlineTaskSubtype%5B0%5D=12&onlineTaskSubtype%5B1%5D=17

Web Work
https://www.givingway.com/search.give?searchMode=online&onlineTaskSubtype%5B0%5D=3&onlineTaskSubtype%5B1%5D=4&onlineTaskSubtype%5B2%5D=5
TEMPORARY CHANGES TO DofE

Temporary changes to DofE programme requirements

Participants can change section DofE staff members may be able to act as Volunteering, Physical and Skills section Assessors, if required.

DofE.org/DofEWithADifference

Temporary changes to DofE programme requirements

Participants can volunteer for family members, for example by mentoring or coaching younger siblings.

DofE.org/DofEWithADifference

Temporary changes to DofE programme requirements

Participants can change section activities more than once. Time spent on previous activities will still count towards completion.

DofE.org/DofEWithADifference

Temporary changes to DofE programme requirements

Participants can progress to the next level of Award before completing their expedition.

DofE.org/DofEWithADifference
Campus life
THANKSGIVING & INDUCTION SERVICE
Drama e-Portfolio
DO NOT BRING DOWN YOUR MASK TO THE CHIN

Exposed area

The inside of the mask will be contaminated

Mouth and nose will be infected by bacteria or virus or germs

When you want to eat, drink or do any activity where you have to remove your mask, just remove it completely.

Let's sing together again!

The whole IB family is welcome to participate: PYP, MYP, DP, CP students, graduates, parents, teachers, administrators, anyone who wants to sing.

Kaitlyn Hulme from "The Quarantined Choir" will be our Project Director.

Please fill the form: https://forms.gle/ZbsZ1ykpetWGXSzLU

Visit our previous projects at: https://youtu.be/r1U_RW6s3p0

Write to: hmolina@yorkin.org to get more info.

#IBtogether
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
COUNSELLORS’ CORNER

There is an infinite wealth of knowledge available to us at our finger tips through the magic of reading either online or a hardcopy document. Dear students, a peasant that reads is a prince in waiting. Be intentional about reading!

-Walter Mosley-

THANK YOU NOTE TO ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS FOR YOUR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE VARIOUS VIRTUAL SESSIONS

Climaxing alumni sessions this week has been brilliant! To our cherished alumni, various tidbits shared on life is key to successful transitioning from TIS to the world. Thanks for the nuggets of wisdom. This is gold! Please see pictures below and some reflections from our students. Enjoy reading!
Major Highlights Gleaned from the Presentation on the topic-Harnessing Gifts and Talents

Ama Owusu-Manu  IB Class of 2020 (Currently studying at University of Kent, UK)

- With the opportunities at TIS, all you have to do is to participate. It helps you develop skills you for the future.
- Life is a journey, so don’t compare yourself to others, but do the best that you can. To compare, you get lost in the end because we are all different.
- If you respect your teachers and connect with them, they will look out for you!
- Have an accountability partner to make sure you complete your work.

Steven Kingsley Opuni 2019 (Currently studying at University of Bath, UK)

- Adapting to university life and all the things you learn at TIS helps you. Take advantage to learn and to be corrected!
✓ Don’t leave your assignments for another day. Once you have it, get it done.
✓ Extra curriculars helps you develop great skills for your future.
✓ Studying alone helps but finding yourselves in study groups is best.
✓ Your mindset determines how far you go. Be positive and grow along.

Kofi Sakyi Addo  IB Class of 2019 (Currently studying at Inchen University, China)
✓ Know yourself. This helps you work with others better.
✓ You can’t be in class and do things anyhow. Learn to comport yourself and then your teachers can help you.
✓ Develop your gifts and skills. You never know how they will help you in future.
✓ Busy about nothing helps you achieve less. Find your passion and develop it.
✓ At university, professors don’t chase you to finish your work so learn that now.

Students’ Reflections
“Our engrossing session with the Alumni to me was mostly based on approaching academics and other activities with an enthusiastic mindset. Preventing yourself from being discouraged or not giving yourself an opportunity to put effort in a subject or an extracurricular activity will not allow you to discover skills or aspects of yourself you weren’t aware you possessed. To add on, this session emphasized on the importance of time management and opening yourself up to new skills. Prioritizing the things you aim to achieve in the week or the weeks to come aid you to more likely carry them out. At TIS, they are many opportunities given to us and it’s up to us to take the time and effort to engage ourselves in clubs, etc., to help you find out what you would like to do in the long term. Ensuring to set your own desired result and not comparing yourself to others allows you to not get lost even though you may have an accountability partner ensure to not cross paths as it might bring you down in the end. This session has given me an insight of some of the skills that I need to build up before I get to university”. - Grade 10, Ramatu Ibrahim

“The session with our Alumni was very helpful to me in terms of my academic life and social life. They talked about how to develop leadership skills in TIS and in other places by leading groups in school whether big or small and that we should not be afraid to lead. This was helpful to someone like me because most of the time I am always shy to lead other people or to participate in certain activities. Another thing that was brought up in the session was that we should always have a good mindset when it comes to work. We shouldn’t say things that would make us feel less confident like "I can't do it" or "It's too Hard". We should always aim for the best and stay positive. They mentioned having a relationship with Your teachers which is something that most people don't have because they feel intimidated and afraid to talk to them. If there is something that was taught and you did not understand, you should go to your teachers and ask them questions for further understanding. They gave us tips for university like how the transition was from TIS and how to adapt to the new environment by making friends. Over all I think that this session was very beneficial because it has helped me
be more serious with my academics and also to prepare for the outside world and university”".-Diego-Cristiano Nwokolo, Grade 10.

Master Class with Anna Maria-Poku IB Class of 2019 (Currently studying Law at Nottingham University)

Anna Maria-Poku, a brilliant future lawyer who has mastered the art of public speaking, enjoyed a seasoned session with the lower Grades 7&8. SPECIAL THANKS. Our heartfelt thank you to Mama Su, Grace and the CASSA Team for initiating and facilitating this Master Class, which was the very first of its kind during Alumni Week! Mastering the art of speaking as defined by Anna-Maria is simply preparation, planning, and rehearsal to get you equipped. However, for successful presentations there are excellent points worth considering. See the diagram below.

It is always important to connect with your audience and keep them glued to the presentation. In order to do this you must know the content of the document at your
fingertips, when you make a mistake or muddle the words up just continue, use simple and easy-to-understand language, diagrams and statistical data must be clear and easy to understand don’t forget to dress appropriately for the presentation.

Students’ Reflections

“Today in Guidance we had a zoom call with a former student of TIS, Anna-Maria, who graduated in 2018. She came on zoom to talk to us about public speaking. She talked about the 3 steps to public speaking which were research, construction, and delivery. We then talked about how to handle yourself when talking to your audience, for example, when you are presenting, you can stand but not move too much because that is a sign of nervousness instead of the confidence you would want to present to your audience. I also learnt that when you are presenting you should not depend too much on your gadget because if something goes wrong with the device you can still carry on with the presentation. In conclusion, public speaking is a very important skill that all students should master and I am glad that I got to know more about it thanks to Anna-Maria”. Paris Owusu, Grade 7

“I learnt that Barack Obama is always prepared and rehearsed before talking about something in public. I also learnt that if you are going to present you should not take above 45-minutes presenting. It should be at least 30-35 minutes. I learnt that there are four construction ideas. If you are presenting in public you must know your body language: smile, but don’t grin. Look at your audience in their eyes. You must also be dressed appropriately so your dress won’t disturb you even when giving a presentation in public. Prepare backups, test ahead and memorize the message”. Richmond Alorvor, Grade 7

“This guidance class was fun and interactive. We had a talk with Ann-Maria about public speaking. During the presentation she talked to us about tips we can use to make our
presentation good. I learnt that during your presentation you should always practise. You should always try to point out the central idea. You should add a lot of diagrams which would explain it more in depth. You shouldn’t have a presentation for more than 30-minutes because the audience sometimes loses interest. You shouldn’t read the slides you should try explaining the slides. I also learnt that if you want to build your public speaking you should always practice and try saying your speech in front of people. You should also dress appropriately and you should pay attention to your body language. In conclusion this guidance class helped me to strengthen my presentation skills and I endeavor to use the tips I learnt in my other presentations”. Nana Aisha Hussein, Grade 8

DP1s: Choosing Universities? University of Lincoln, UK, is worth considering. Check it out: https://www.lincoln.ac.uk/home/

University of Lincoln offers various undergraduate programmes and master's programme spanning from Art, Sciences, Social science, and Business courses.

Below are the free services our students can benefit from the University Of Lincoln, UK.

- Organize virtual masterclasses on different programmes
- Webinars on steps to studying in the UK
- Virtual Meet and greet session with student leaders and talks on transferable skills: this event most times inspires young students.
- Virtual competitions and Information session about scholarships.
- Online career sessions and study fair

DP2s: Applying to a Ghanaian University? Hurry….. Lancaster University is Offering the Early Bird Grants

The Early Bird Grants available in Lancaster University Ghana applies to any of these seven programmes of study: Business Management, Marketing, Accounting & Finance, Economics and International Relations, Politics and International Relations, Law and Computer Science
Early bird is a tuition grant and allows:

- 25% off if full tuition fees are paid in cash, card or a single current dated cheque before 13th August 2021.
- 15% off if amount paid is between 60%-99% of tuition fees before 13th August 2021

For assistance with student applications for October 2021 intake, please do not hesitate to contact Henrietta Mensah Office: +233 (0) 302 747 700 (Ext. 214) Mobile & Whatsapp: +233 596 911 377

Academic City University in collaboration with WHY SCIENCE from the United States invites all Science Teachers in Ghana to participate in its maiden Online Science conference to discuss the EXPERIENTIAL TEACHING OF SCIENCE via the link below:

Registration Link: https://bit.ly/WhyScienceSession1
Date of the Conference: Thursday, 18 February, 2021.
Time: 3:00pm
For further information please call Lorna on for more info: +233 (0) 545085576 or email: quartey.lorna@acity.edu.gh

UPCOMING VIRTUAL UNIVERSITY FAIR - SCHOOLS IN IRELAND!

Face to face conversations with representatives of universities and colleges in Ireland.

Date: 20th February 2021
Time: 8am – 1pm

Register: eduireland.live/wa2
Whatsapp: +233-59-4766888 or email us at eieducation@enterprise-ireland.com
DATE AND INFORMATION

**SAT**

2020-2021 TEST DATES

See the New SAT dates below:

SAT 2020-2021

- 13 March 2021
- 8 May 2021

DP1s: don’t wait until the eleventh hour to register. Register now to avoid any disappointments! [https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/international](https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/international)

Test takers, please come along with your VALID UNEXPIRED PASSPORT as the only form of identification! Photocopies are not acceptable. All COVID-19 protocol will be fully observed. Remember No mask no entry!

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

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

**ACT**

2020-2021 TEST DATES (COMPUTER-BASED TESTING ONLY!)

ACT Registration Fees (Online payments only: Visit [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)):

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. STEM students have an edge when they take the ACT.

NEW TEST DATES FOR ACT 2020-2021

- 17 April 2021

**PreACT**

Exam Date has been postponed. New date will be communicated shortly! PRACTICE TESTS FOR SAT, ACT OR PRE-ACT, PSAT, TEST PREP RESOURCES FROM THE OFFICIAL TEST MAKERS CAN BE FOUND HERE; [WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG](http://WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG) AND [WWW.ACTSTUDENT.ORG](http://WWW.ACTSTUDENT.ORG).
“TIS, as a family school that provides unique experiences, embodies a spirit of integrity and respect for others which are central to the personal, academic and ethical development of each member.

As a TIS family member,

I promise to uphold and demonstrate its values, and protect the reputation of the school.

I make this pledge in the spirit of honour and trust.”