



**TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**



# Profile



P. O. Box CO 864, Tema, Ghana



Primary School Campus, C. 22 & Main Campus, C. 21.



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TISGhana

TIS\_Ghana

General Manager | **Mrs. Cecilia Ajavon-Oppan**

Dep. General Manager/  
Head of Admissions & Student Support |  
**Mrs. Frances Ajavon-Okudzeto**

Principal | **Dr. Ken Darvall**

Diploma Programme Coordinator | **Mr Benjamin Darko**

Middle Years Programme Coordinator |  
**Ms. Yvonne Tagoe**

## Key Personnel



Primary Years Programme Coordinator |  
**Jacob Lumumba**

Head of Admin | **Mr. Eddy Torkornoo**

Head of Finance | **Mr. Kobina Quansah**

Boys' Hostel Coordinator | **Mr. Gabriel Atseku**

Girls' Hostel Coordinator | **Ms. Setor Adih**

➤➤➤➤ **CEEB: 617140**   **UCAS: 45646**   **SAT Centre No.: 77650**   **ACT Centre No.: 870390**   <<<<<<

## OUR MISSION

Tema International School seeks to:

- Provide an excellent and diverse education for all, irrespective of nationality ethnicity, creed or gender.
- Draw on the cultural diversity of the school community as a foundation for building universal human values.
- Develop the spirit of inquiry in all our students as a fundamental tool for encouraging critical thinking and stimulating intellectual development.
- Create a safe and supportive environment which promotes self-discipline, honesty, integrity and excellence in learning.

We believe that the young adults who graduate from TIS possess the knowledge and relevant skills to unlock opportunities and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

## OUR VISION

To be an international school of choice, nurturing world class citizens responsive to the needs of society.



## BACKGROUND

Tema International School is a private coeducational P-12 school situated some two kilometres north of the port city of Tema which lies on the Greenwich meridian. The new Primary School Campus, located one kilometre from the main campus is an authorised PYP School. The main campus offers secondary boarding opportunities in MYP and DP.

The secondary school opened in 2003 and was established to provide a holistic education that complements the National Education System and facilitates admission into universities all over the world.

The language of instruction is English.

## ENROLMENT

The student population now stands at 376.

The age range of students is as follows:

Grades K1-6	3-12 years	PYP
Grades 7-10	12-16 years	MYP
Grades 11-12	16-19 years	DP

Currently students in TIS come from 10 different countries around the world. The majority are Ghanaian. The average class size is 15.

## FACULTY

There are experienced, highly qualified and motivated faculty who are concerned about the wellbeing of each student and are aware that teaching and learning extends beyond the classroom.

## MAIN CAMPUS FACILITIES

On a 10-acre campus:

- There are 4 hostels for boarders with common and study rooms.
- An ultra-modern learning centre which has the capacity to stock 22,000 volumes of books, houses the university placement office and private/group study room.
- Air-conditioned classrooms surrounded by attractive well-tended gardens including subject, departmental and coordinators offices.
- A resource centre housing four science labs.
- Computer labs and e-learning centres with over 80 computers and 150mb dedicated fibre optics internet access.
- Free wifi service across the school.
- A multi-purpose/dinning hall
- A project centre which houses the media room, dance room, an ultra-modern kitchen and the CAS-SA office.
- Music, art and theatre studios
- A sports complex which includes a full-size football pitch, basketball, volleyball, tennis and squash courts, swimming pool and gym.

## THE PRIMARY SCHOOL CAMPUS

Stage 1 facilities include:



- open flexible learning area for three preschool-classes;



- washroom facilities for preschool students;
- open flexible learning area for three junior primary classes;
- washroom facilities for junior primary students;
- arts facilities;
- tablets / computers in learning area;
- security - Wifi and CCTV;

- three administration offices;
- cafeteria (lunch room);
- kitchen preparation area and store rooms;
- teachers' staff room;
- IT server room;
- white boards and projectors; and
- small play areas.

### BOARDING ACCOMMODATION (MAIN CAMPUS)

Usually six students share a spacious self-contained room with two toilets and two bathrooms. Hostel parents supervise these hostels and have their apartments within the boarding houses. They provide pastoral care to students, playing the roles of parents and mentors.



### CALENDAR

The school year commences in August and ends in June. The annual calendar of events is provided to the school community.



# TIS



## 4 PILLARS

- *Academics*
- *Sport*
- *Culture*
- *Service*

## CLASS RANK

At TIS, students are not class-ranked numerically. Instead, emphasis is placed on student effort and achievement.

## THE IB PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME (PYP)



TIS is now authorised to offer the Primary Years Programme (IBPYP), for 3 to 12 year olds. As a student-centred programme with responsible action at its core, the PYP focuses on developing internationally-minded learners through an inquiry-based approach. It emphasizes the holistic development of the child, equipping them to think for themselves and take responsibility for their own learning.

By honing students' transdisciplinary skills, and incorporating local and global issues into the programme of inquiry, students mirror the IB learner profile, becoming active, caring, lifelong learners, who demonstrate respect for themselves and others, and take positive action in the world around them.

These objectives are achieved through the exploration of Six broad themes: (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) which look at connections and applications across the following disciplines:

- Languages: English; Sign Language, Mandarin, French, Ewe/Twi
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Arts: Performing Arts-Dance/Drama, Music  
Creative Arts-Visual Arts
- P.S.P.E (Personal, Social & Physical Education) and
- ICT (Information & Communication Technologies)

By this transdisciplinary approach, the PYP makes learning meaningful, engaging, challenging and significant.

## THE IB MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME (MYP)



Tema International School is authorised to offer the Middle Years Programme. As an IBMYP World School, we share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that Tema International School believes is important for our students.

The curriculum for the Middle Years (7-10), will prepare students for further education

towards the IB Diploma Programme.

TIS offers pathways either through MYP e-assessments or completion of MYP core requirements including the Personal Project.

### MYP Model

- Language and Literature: English
- Language Acquisition: French & Spanish
- Individuals and Societies: History, Geography, Economics
- Sciences: Integrated Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics
- Mathematics
- Design: Digital Design and Product Design
- Physical and Health Education
- Arts: Visual Arts, Music and Dance



## GRADES 7-8 (MYP 2-3)

Students experience all subjects, except Music and Drama. Only Product Design is offered in these years. During Grade 8, students will complete a Community Project.

## GRADES 9/10 (MYP 4-5)

Students must choose a minimum of six or maximum of eight subjects. Subject choices should reflect their aspirations for university students considering science or medical studies must choose all three science subjects (Biology, Chemistry and Physics). To satisfy MYP requirements, students must complete a Personal Project and eAssessments in Grade 10.



## THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME



Following completion of MYP in Grade 10, Grade 11 and 12 students embark on the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. It is a demanding pre-university course of study and designed for highly motivated secondary school students aged 16 to 19. It stimulates critical thinking, reflection on knowledge and experience gained inside and outside the classroom.

Each examined subject is graded on a scale of 1 (minimum) to 7 (maximum). Students must complete three subjects at Higher Level (HL) and three at Standard Level (SL).

The award of the Diploma requires a minimum total of 24 points and completion of three additional requirements: Extended Essay; Theory of Knowledge (TOK). and Creativity, Action and Service (CAS).

The maximum score of 45 points includes 3 bonus points for good work completed in the extended essay and TOK.

### Group 1-Studies in Language and Literature: English A Literature (HL & SL) Language & Literature (SL)

### Group 2-Language Acquisition: Language B French B (HL & SL) Spanish B (HL & SL) Spanish AB initio (SL)

### Group 3-Individuals and Societies

Economics (HL & SL)  
Geography (HL & SL)  
History (HL & SL)  
Information Technology in a Global Society (HL & SL)  
Business Management (HL & SL)  
Environmental Systems & Societies (SL)  
Psychology (HL & SL)

### Group 4- Sciences

Biology (HL & SL) Chemistry (HL & SL)  
Physics (HL & SL) Computer Science (HL & SL)  
Environmental Systems & Societies (SL)  
Sports Exercise & Health Science (SL)

### Group 5-Mathematics

Analysis and Approaches (HL & SL)  
Applications and Interpretation (HL & SL)

### Group 6-The Arts

Visual Arts (HL & SL) Theatre (HL & SL)  
Music (HL & SL)





## IB: COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ENROLMENT



**Australia**  
Australian Catholic University

**Barbados**  
American University of Barbados

**Bulgaria**  
Medical University of Pleven

**Canada**  
Algoma University  
Brock University  
Carleton University  
Concordia University  
Dalhousie University  
Lakehead University  
Memorial University of New-  
foundland  
McGill University  
McMaster University  
Queen's University  
Redeemer University College  
Ryerson University  
Simon Fraser University  
St. Mary's University  
Trent University  
UOIT  
University of Alberta  
University of British Columbia  
University of Calgary  
University of Guelph  
University of Lethbridge  
University of Manitoba  
University of New Brunswick  
University of Northern British  
Columbia  
University of Ottawa  
University of Regina  
University Of Saskatchewan  
University of Toronto  
University of Victoria  
University of Waterloo  
University of Windsor  
Vancouver Institute of Art  
Western University  
Wilfrid Laurier University  
York University

**China**  
Dalian Medical University  
Shanghai Jiao Tong University  
(SJTU)

**Cyprus**  
University of Nicosia

**Czech Republic**  
Charles University

**France**  
American University of Paris  
EPITA France  
Jean Moulin University  
Sciences Po  
Université Grenoble Alpes  
University of Lille  
University of Savoie Mont Blanc

**Germany**  
Jacobs University Bremen

**Ghana**  
Academic City College  
Accra College of Medicine  
Ashesi University  
Central University College  
GIMPA  
Kwame Nkrumah University of  
Science & Technology  
University of Cape Coast  
University of Ghana  
Lancaster University, Ghana  
Webster University, Ghana  
Wisconsin International University  
College

**Grenada**  
Saint George's University

**Hungary**  
University of Debrecen  
University of Pecs Medical School

**India**  
DR. M.G.R. University and Re-  
search Institute, Chennai  
Loyola College  
Institute of Fashion Designing

**Ireland**  
University College Cork  
University College of Dublin  
University of Limerick  
Royal College of Surgeons Ireland

**Italy**  
John Cabot University

**Kenya**  
United States International Uni-  
versity (USIU), East African branch

**Malaysia**  
Institute of Medical Sciences at  
Mantin

**Mauritius**  
African Leadership University  
Middlesex University

**Qatar**  
Northwestern University

**Rwanda**  
African Leadership University

**Singapore**  
Nanyang Technological University

**Slovakia**  
University of Safarik

**South Africa**  
University of the Witwatersrand

**South Korea**  
Incheon National University  
Sookmyung Women's University

**Spain**  
IE University  
European University (EU) Busi-  
ness School

**The Netherlands**  
Radboud University  
University at Twente  
University of Amsterdam  
University of Groningen  
Utrecht University  
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

**Switzerland**  
European University (EU) Busi-  
ness School

**United Arab Emirates**  
New York University- Abu Dhabi

Herriot-Watt University Dubai  
University of Birmingham Dubai

**UK**  
Abertay University  
Aberystwyth University  
Anglia Ruskin University  
Aston University  
Bath Spa University  
Birmingham City University  
Brighton & Sussex Medical School  
Brunel University  
Buckinghamshire New University  
Cardiff University  
City University- London  
Coventry University  
De Montfort University  
Glasgow Caledonian University  
Heriot-Watt University  
Keele University  
Kings College- London  
Liverpool Hope University  
London Metropolitan University  
London South Bank University  
Loughborough University  
Manchester Metropolitan Uni-  
versity  
Middlesex University  
Newcastle University  
Nottingham Trent University  
Oxford Brooks University  
Plymouth University  
Queen Mary University of London  
Queen's University Belfast  
Ravensbourne University London  
Robert Gordon University  
Royal Agricultural University  
Staffordshire University  
Swansea University  
Teesside University  
The University of Law  
Ulster University  
University College London  
University for the Creative Arts  
University of Aberdeen  
University of Birmingham  
University of Bolton  
University of Bournemouth  
University of Bradford  
University of Brighton  
University of Bristol  
University of Cambridge  
University of Central Lancashire

University of Chester  
University of Durham  
University of Dundee  
University of East Anglia  
University of East London  
University of Edinburgh  
University of Essex  
University of Exeter  
University of Glasgow  
University of Gloucestershire  
University of Greenwich  
University of Hertfordshire  
University of Hull  
University of Kent  
University of Kingston  
University of Lancaster  
University of Leeds  
University of Leicester  
University of Lincoln  
University of Liverpool  
University of London  
University of Manchester  
University of Newcastle  
University of Northampton  
University of Nottingham  
University of Portsmouth  
University of Reading  
University of Salford  
University of Southampton  
University of Stirling  
University of Sunderland  
University of Surrey  
University of Sussex  
University of Warwick  
University of West England, Bristol  
University of Westminster  
University of Winchester  
University of Wolverhampton  
University of York  
UWE Bristol

## USA

Adelphi University  
Agnes Scott College  
Albright College  
Allegheny College  
Augsburg University  
Augustana University  
Azusa Pacific University  
Babson College  
Baldwin-Wallace College  
Barnard College of Columbia  
University  
Barry University  
Beloit College  
Bennington College  
Berea College  
Bentley University  
Binghamton University  
Boston College  
Boston University  
Bowling Green State University  
Bradley University  
Bryant University  
Bryn Mawr College  
Bucknell University  
Buffalo State College  
Caldwell University  
California State University- Long  
Beach  
Calvin College  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Castleton University  
Champlain College

Chapman University  
Clark Atlanta University  
Clarkson University  
Clark University  
Cleveland State University  
College of Charleston  
College of Saint Elizabeth  
College of Wooster  
Colgate University  
Columbia College- Chicago  
Columbia University  
Concordia College  
Connecticut College  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth College  
Denison University  
DePaul University  
DePauw University  
DeSales University  
Dickinson College  
Drake University  
Drew University  
Drexel University  
Duquesne University  
Earlham College  
East Stroudsburg University  
Elms University  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical Uni-  
versity  
Emerson College  
Emory University  
Fashion Institute of Design and  
Merchandising  
Fisk University  
Florida Institute of Technology  
Florida Southern University  
Fordham University  
Franklin & Marshall  
Full Sail University  
Georgia State University  
Goucher College  
Guilford College  
Grinnell College  
Gustavus Adolphus College  
Hampshire College  
Hanover College  
Harrisburg University of Science&  
Technology  
Hartwick College  
Haverford College  
Hawaii Pacific University  
High Point University  
Hofstra University  
Hope College  
Houghton College  
Hult International Business School  
Illinois College  
Illinois Wesleyan University  
Iona College  
Iowa State University  
Indiana University  
Indiana University- Purdue Univer-  
sity Indianapolis  
Ithaca College  
Jacksonville University  
James Madison University  
Juniata College  
Kalamazoo College  
Kennesaw State University  
Kent State University  
Knox College  
La Salle University  
Lafayette College  
Lake Forest College

Lawrence Technological University  
Lehigh University  
Loyola Marymount University  
Loyola University  
Luther College  
Lycoming University  
Macalester College  
Manhattanville College  
Marietta College  
Marist College  
Marquette University  
Maryland Institute College of Art  
Massachusetts College of Phar-  
macy and Health Sciences  
Massachusetts Institute of Technol-  
ogy  
Mercer University  
Mercyhurst University  
Merrimack College  
Miami University, Oxford, Ohio  
Michigan State University  
Middlebury College  
Millersville University  
Milwaukee School of engineering  
Monmouth University  
Montclair University  
Mount Holyoke College  
New York Film Academy  
New York Institute of Technology  
New York School of Art and Design  
New York University  
Northeastern University  
Oberlin College  
Ohio Wesleyan College  
Old Dominion University  
Pace University  
Parsons, the New School of Design  
Pennsylvania State  
Pepperdine University  
Philadelphia University  
Pratt Institute  
Princeton University  
Purdue University  
Quinnipiac University  
Regis College  
Rider University  
Ringling College of Art and Design  
Rocky Mountain College of Art and  
Design  
Rollins College  
Roanoke College  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Rowan University  
Rutgers University  
Santa Clara University  
SCAD  
School of Art Institute of Chicago  
Seattle University  
Seton Hall University  
Shippensburg University of Penn-  
sylvania  
Skidmore College  
Spelman College  
Smith College  
Spelman College  
State University of New York,  
Plattsburgh, New York  
St. Lawrence University  
St. Leo University  
St. Louis University  
St. Olaf University  
Stony Brook University  
Suffolk University  
SUNY Buffalo

SUNY Plattsburgh  
Syracuse University  
Temple University  
Texas Christian University  
The George Washington University  
The School of the Museum of Fine  
Arts  
The School of Visual Arts  
The University of the Arts  
Trinity University  
Truman University  
Truman State University  
Union College  
University at Albany  
University of Arizona  
University of California-San Diego  
University of Central Florida  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Colorado- Boulder  
University of Delaware  
University of Florida  
University of Hartford  
University of Iowa  
University of Kentucky  
University of Lynchburg  
University of Maine  
University of Maine at Forte Kent  
University of Maryland Baltimore  
county  
University of Massachusetts- Am-  
herst, Boston, Dartmouth  
University of Miami  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota  
University of New Haven  
University of Northern Iowa  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Rochester  
University of Rhode Island  
University of Richmond  
University of San Diego  
University of South Florida  
University of Tampa  
University of Toledo  
University of Tulsa  
University of Wisconsin  
Utica College  
Vassar College  
Villanova University  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute &  
State University  
Walsh University  
Wartburg University  
Washington College  
Washington & Jefferson College  
Webster University  
Wellesley College  
Wells College  
Wentworth Institute of Technology  
Westchester University of Pennsyl-  
vania  
Whittier College  
Williams College  
Wilson College  
Woodbury University  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
Yale University

## West Indies

Saint George's University School of  
Medicine, Grenada



## SERVICE LEARNING

Service learning actively involves students in a wide range of experiences, which often benefit others and the community, while also advancing the goals of a given curriculum. Common goals achieved by service learning include: gaining a deeper understanding of the course/curricular content, a broader appreciation of the discipline and an enhanced sense of civic responsibility, planning and continuous reflection.

What does service learning look like at TIS? Students are actively involved in the following service learning programmes.

- Annual School Play
- Art Therapy
- Awareness Campaign
- Basketball Beyond Borders
- Borehole for Rural Areas - Water for Life
- Cultural Exchanges
- Debaters Society
- Educom program
- Feeding Program
- Literacy Project
- Outreaches
- Photography Club
- Recycling
- Reunited
- School Magazine Editorial Board
- Soccer Outreach
- Sustainable Development Goal – SDGs related Projects
- TIS Red Cross Society
- United to Light Ghana
- Annual School Play
- School Magazine Club



## EXTRA CURRICULA PROGRAMMES

A multitude of clubs and activities are conducted after school and during weekends each semester. Clubs and activities include: art and craft; bead making; badminton; basketball; chess club; cooking; cosmetology; garden club; handball; information attaché; keep fit club; MUN Club; needlework; pop band; readers' and writers' club; regimental band; robotics; school choir; science fair club; soccer; strings; swimming; swimming club; table tennis club; taekwondo; tennis; yoga; and zumba. Swimming and sports are available for Primary School students.



## SPORT

Sport is one of the pillars of the TIS culture. It challenges students to go beyond their limits in acquiring techniques and skills that will enable them to enjoy sporting activities for fun and as a competitive event. Students are exposed to, and given the opportunity to exhibit their talents in a wide range of sporting activities. These include: soccer, volleyball, handball, tennis, table tennis, basketball, badminton, squash, swimming, athletics and field hockey. As part of our intramural activities, students are given the opportunity to represent their house color in all the above sporting events.

TIS is also a member of the Tema International Schools Sports Association (TISSA), which offers the following interschool competitions: athletics, swimming, volleyball, tennis, table tennis, soccer, hockey, badminton and basketball.



## CULTURAL PERFORMANCES



TIS provides a safe and motivating space to unearth, develop and groom students' creative talents in drama, music, dance, and art & craft. Each year, students participate in a myriad of performance programs, be it the annual theatre performance, music concerts and art & craft exhibitions. From the seat of the presidency of Ghana to the royal corridors of the Duke of Edinburgh, students of TIS have been recognised and celebrated for their outstanding cultural performances, which are mostly second to none. The Primary School students also participate in major TIS performances.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

A myriad opportunities for students to unearth, hone and demonstrate their leadership skills by taking up a range of responsibilities from Grades 7 to 12. These include but are not limited to class representatives on the Student Council (Grade 7-12); Student Council executive leaders (Grade 11-12); Inter-Colour leaders; Model United Nations (MUN) participants; Service Learning, Creativity, Activity & Service (CAS) initiators; Club Executives as well as student organizers of sporting and cultural activities.



## TIS ALUMNI

Our past students, who have pursued undergraduate studies in colleges and universities around the world, are a special part of TIS. Most Alumni frequently visit the school to meet their former teachers and staff, talk to students about their experiences and participate in different school events.

Members are featured regularly in our bulletins and newsletters. Not only were they champions at TIS, but our alumni are also stars in their chosen studies and careers.





## SCHOOL GOVERNANCE

Tema International School is a Private Limited Liability Company incorporated under the Companies Code, 1963 (Act 179). Each member of the Board of Governors is appointed by the Board of Directors of the Company to serve for a minimum term of two years and may be reappointed by the Board of Directors.

Among the Board's principal functions are to: ensure the school is well-managed and performs to its best potential consistent with the stated mission, vision and values; set the strategic direction for the school and approve the strategic plan; support the implementation of the strategic plan and monitor progress regularly. The Board has delegated authority for the operations and administration of the school to the Principal. The Board aims to fulfill the dream of the Founding Family.



## RELATIONSHIP WITH PARENTS

A successful school reflects a strong school community. Although TIS is a residential school, the school ensures regular communication with parents through weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters, school calendar, frequent events to which parents are invited, online reporting and an open door policy with the Principal. The Primary School hosts end of unit 'celebrations' and interviews every six weeks



## LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

TIS students are very focused on successful academic results so that they can gain admission to their college or university of choice. Our facilities cater for our scientists, musicians, artists, sports stars, computer scientists and academics. Our school-wide wifi network enables our students to access online resources, digital textbooks and learning management system within our IT labs or by using their own devices.

The learning programme and environment promote our students to become active learners and critical thinkers within a balanced framework. The TIS DP graduate is an articulate leader who is intelligent, balanced, independent and committed to service and lifelong learning.



## A GREEN SCHOOL

TIS is a green school, using biogas to supply our science labs and solar power for lighting in key areas of the school. As a key supporter of the Liter for Light program, TIS has been providing light in one of our service communities at Akorlikope. The TIS GardenHolics produce their own compost from the school kitchen waste and the leaves around campus. This compost is used to enrich the organic components of the soil in cultivating different herbs and vegetables. TIS uses its own borehole for its water needs and is treated through our own filtration system to ensure water purity levels.



## SCHOOL SPIRIT: INTER-COLOUR HOUSES

Each student and members of staff belong to a colour house: Red Kigelia, Green Wisteria, Blue Cedar and Yellow Outeniqua. A variety of activities are lined up throughout the year, such as: singing competition, dance battle, spelling bee, current affair quiz, swimming championships, athletics carnival, maths exhibition and quiz, chess tournament and sporty family. These activities promote healthy competition and create a bond amongst students and staff, and in the process, ensure a very happy and conducive atmosphere on campus. The TIS community always looks forward to these competitions.



## INTERNATIONAL MINDEDNESS

In today's increasingly interdependent world, it is more important than ever to ensure students are prepared for their roles as global citizens. As our university placement statistics demonstrate, our graduating Grade 12 students study in the four corners of the world. TIS is very fortunate, and extremely proud, of our international students from 9 different countries. Within our student leadership structure, there is an international student representative as part of the SRC executive positions.

There are also international teaching staff who ensure global and local contexts are presented to students. International and cultural day is a very significant, colourful and anticipated event that is held during TIS Founders' Week. Study, sports, subject-specific and MUN (Model United Nations) trips to international venues ensure that the TIS community is aware of its own culture and that of others. This awareness enables an understanding that people with different perspectives, values, culture and understandings can also be right!