

September 2018

Dear Parents,

The new academic year has got off to a flying start with an excited new Nursery group embarking on their studies with us. I could relate to the slightly nervous parents who dropped off their little ones before enjoying a nice cup of tea in our conference room. By the end of the first day, there was laughter and excited chit chat! From the parents! It was a welcome noise, one that brought back my own memories of when I had to take my own children to their new school. It is enlightening to see how far attitudes towards parent involvement have changed. As a new mum, I was told to drop off and run! Now we are proud to promote an open door policy where we encourage parents to volunteer and be part of the school community.

Parent's also played a huge part in encouraging their children to dress in their Eid clothes for our celebratory day to acknowledge Eid ul Azha. If you tap into our Face Book page, facebook.com/tnsbeaconhouse you will see the colourful results of the day. Can you spot the staff working on the Mehndi design for me? Wonderful craftsmanship.

As we settle down to a normal school routine I would like to remind you of the upcoming after school activities programme that your children can sign up for. I have tried to increase the choices so that all of our students can find something they are interested in. Club registrations will begin today, Monday 3rd September (documents will be sent out by Mr Aurangzeb). I would also like to remind you of our excellent facility at the Bedian Centre where horse riding is available. Mr Hasseb, our PE coordinator, who liaises with Mr. Junaid can be contacted, through the school for further support.

As I do my walkabouts and drop-ins across the school I am delighted to see excellent learning taking place. Students of all year groups are focused well and participating with enthusiasm. Some of the very young children impress me the most with their critical thinking and openness to new ideas. Older students are using those transferable skills that I often talk about in a constructive manner that are allowing the links between subjects to enhance their understanding of key concepts.

Last month I gave you dates for your dairy, which included August and September. I would also like to provide you with the Key dates for the year so that it helps your future planning with regards to holidays/ term times etc. (see reverse)

I would like to remind you that school uniform is still available at our school shop and if you require any further support, you can contact Ms Zahra Khan, through the school, who is more than happy to help you pre-book special requirements as well as ensure a prompt response to any queries you may have.

Finally, may I acknowledge your upcoming Pakistan Defense Day. The school remains open on this date.

Ms. Diane Metcalfe
Head of School
TNS Beaconhouse

| Day | For Teachers | For Students |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| First Day of Autumn Term- 2018 | 6 August (Mon) | 15 August (Wed) |
| First Day of Winter Break- 2018 | 24 December (Mon) | 24 December (Mon) |
| First Day of Winter Term - 2019 | 2 January (Wed) | 7 January (Mon) |
| First Day of Spring Break- 2019 | 25 March (Mon) | 25 March (Mon) |
| First Day of Spring Term- 2019 | 1 April (Mon) | 1 April (Mon) |
| First Day of Summer Break- 2019 | 13 June (Thu) | 3 June (Mon) |
| First Day of Autumn Term- 2019 | 5 August (Mon) | 19 August (Wed)** |
| Term Details | | |
| Autumn Term 2018 | Aug 6 - Dec 21 | Aug 15 - Dec 21 |
| Winter Term 2019 | Jan 2 - Mar 22 | Jan 7 - Mar 22 |
| Spring Term 2019 | Apr 1 - Jun 12 | Apr 1 - May 31 |

****Tentative**

| National | Holidays |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Autumn | |
| Term 2018 | |
| Independence Day | 14 August (Tue) |
| Eid ul Azha 2018* | 21 Aug (Tue) - 23 Aug (Thurs) |
| Ashura* | 21 Sep (Fri) - 22 Sep (Sat) |
| Eid Milad un Nabi* | 21 November (Wed) |
| Quaid e Azam Day/ Christmas | 25 December (Tue) |
| Eid ul Fitr 2019* | 5 June (Wed) - 7 June (Fri) |
| Winter | |
| Term 2019 | |
| Kashmir Day | 5 February (Tue) |
| Pakistan Day | 23 March (Sat) |
| Spring | |
| Term 2019 | |
| Labour Day | 1 May (Wed) |

***Subject to sighting of the Moon**