

Head of School's Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you are all enjoying the cooler weather and that the smog is not causing too many concerns. At school we are taking precautions to limit the amount of exposure our students are having by monitoring the levels and substituting outdoor activities for indoor whenever practical. We are also providing masks to those who wish to wear them. Staff is being encouraged to monitor their own areas and encourage sensible activities throughout this time.

The air was very clean for the DP students who went to Chitral and Kalash valley last month on their educational trip. The IB's mission statement says that "...others, with their differences, can also be right" and DP students and teachers saw this in bright living breathing smiling colours when they traveled by bus to Chitral and Kalash. The students met and talked at length with Kalasha children and adults in Bumburet Valley about living in the mountains and on the banks of a flood-prone river in an earthquake-prone valley, dominated by towering mountains. In Chitral the DP students visited the bazaar for activities in Business and Economics, and they completed a running-around Math activity in the beautiful garden of the Tirach Mir Hotel. They visited the 700+-year-old Chitral Fort and they saw markhor that came down to eat and drink at the riverbank.

Due to unforeseen school closures the House Badge competition for EY/PY deadline date was delayed. There were also a few entries that did not fit the criteria (specific dimensions) as well as a little too much support from some parents! So that we can ensure a greater interest and involvement I am re-directing the task to the Art department who will provide the circle and paints in one special lesson per class to produce a badge that can be entered. This way we can ensure all have a fair attempt. I look forward to announcing the winners in my next newsletter.

Our Reception class was busy bees (excuse the pun!) last month, visiting one of our local Bee Hive centers where they got to dress up in the full outfits to look at the way the bees made honey. This linked in very nicely to the topic they are studying in lessons. Ms. Madhia, the Bee Keeper was invited into our EY/PY assembly so that we could thank her in true TNS style!

Even though we have had a few unforeseen circumstances that have led to some trips being postponed, we are dedicated to increasing our extra-curricular activities, which can greatly enhance the learning. The Iqbal Day assemblies were a superb demonstration of our commitment to ensuring all of our students appreciate the beautiful writings of Sir Mohammad Iqbal. We were honored to have special guests at each event;

Mr. Waleed Iqbal, grandson of Sir Mohammad Iqbal joined our MYP/DP assembly, Mr. Ali Azmat, a very gifted musician and his wife joined us for our EY/PY assembly. Ms Dure and her team arranged an excellent celebration, with song, poetry and dance. I know that a great deal of hard work went on behind the scenes, which I appreciate and the additional time and effort from both staff and students that ensured the performances were delivered with grace and dignity.

14th November 2018

It is important to acknowledge those parents and visitors who make a very positive contribution to our school. It is my absolute pleasure to thank Dr. Arif Butt for his dedication and contribution as a member of the Board of Governors. He has served on the board for 3 years, giving of his time and experience without hesitation. I found his energy and passion for education a refreshing addition.

After the School of Tomorrow event, A World of Tomorrow Reimagined, we were fortunate to receive some of the key speakers /presenters to TNS. After a tour of the school and discussions with some of our staff, it was clear they were impressed by our educational practices. I hope that in the future we can come together to pursue our like-minded philosophy on authentic project based learning.

Our Grades 6-8 demonstrated excellent knowledge and understanding of their chosen topics for their Science projects, but what stood out more to me as I visited each table, was the confidence in presenting their processes and working as a team to demonstrate how they are not only learning about specific conditions but looking for solutions.

It is already mid-November and I am mindful that assessment period will soon be upon us and so would ask that you ensure a full attendance throughout November and December. Your respected Co-coordinators will be keeping you up to date on schedules, but find below some general dates for your diary.

Date	Event	Where and what time?
Mon 12 th -Fri 16 th Nov	Last week for After school clubs	Various rooms across the school
Thurs 15 th Nov	Math Inter House Comp	Main Hall
Fri 16 th Nov	G10 Personal Project presentations	Main Hall 11am onwards
Tues 20 th Nov	Chess comp	TBC
Wed 21 st Nov	12 Rabi ul Awal- school closed	All day
Tues 27 th Nov	EY/PY Project presentations	Across the school
Mon 3 rd Dec	Assessments begin	Whole school
Mon 17 th - Thurs 20 th Dec	Parent/teacher/student conferences	Whole school-more details to follow
Fri 21 st Dec	Last day of school –for Winter Break	Whole school



Ms. Diane Metcalfe
Head of School
TNS Beaconhouse DHA