

Head of School's Newsletter No 5

2nd March 2018

Last week there was a buzz at TNS for several days leading up to the Beaconhouse International Student Convention (BISC). The two day event included a diverse array of sporting, art, science and cultural activities where Beaconhouse students from 5 countries came together and competed on an international stage. It was streamed live from the Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex, Muscat, Oman. Three of our students from TNS DHA were part of the winning team representing Pakistan. They achieved significant individual accomplishments for swimming: Mishael Hayat, Grade 10, received 6 gold medals, Feroz Khalid Khawaja Grade 8, received 1 gold, 2 silver and Sarah Khan, Grade 7 received 1 gold, 2 bronze. Mishael also stepped in at the last minute to join the quiz team and secured a bronze for TNS. They all did us proud!

I had some very important visitors in my office: two teams of three KG students, Shahmeer Reza, Khuld Zahra, Yahya Riaz, Eisa Yacob, Umer Bin Sadiq and Ibrahim Ahmer were assigned to do chores in order to receive an income, which they have added to the KG 'saving pot'. Through their project, Pizza and the World of Works they will be using their earnings to buy ingredients for their new Pizza shop that will be opening on 16th March. Wishing them luck!

The MYP/DP Sports Day that was held in February showed parents a slightly different approach to our annual event. I think I demonstrated the IB attribute risk-taker by changing the format of the day. My hope was to create an environment where all students had the opportunity to display their skills as well as their ability to run! I also wanted to strengthen the camaraderie within the House System. I hope those who joined us for the event were pleasantly surprised. Feedback from students was delightful. Many felt more involved this year and enjoyed the group events immensely. Good to see parents actively involved in the Tug of War as well as the final races at the end.

I was delighted to receive an invite to Daniya Jawwad's play, The Importance of Being Kumail, a modern Pakistani adaption of Oscar Wilde's play, which was held at Al Hamra on 17th February. I was impressed with the entire setup, especially the pre-planning and backstage management on the night. This was a massive undertaking by Daniya who demonstrated the ability to take initiative and execute the entire process herself, with very little input from staff. An excellent example of a CAS achievement.

Our annual play was a great success last weekend. School of Rock had audiences captivated with their energy and professionalism. Performances began on Thursday afternoon (for our sister school Gulberg) and continued for three evenings. The atmosphere was friendly, informal and exhilarating. Our students thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the 2 hour show. Those involved behind the scenes, were supportive throughout the event. It was a great opportunity to promote and acknowledge the transferrable skills that our students use each day within their lessons. Strong communication skills were certainly highlighted, but more noticeable to me were 'caring' and 'reflective', attributes, as they improved their own performances every day, but also helped and encouraged their peers to do the same. It really did get better and better as the week rolled on. There were also some amusing moments displaying the IB attribute of risk-taker!

Five of our students were successful in the 4th Art for Change - International Child Art Exhibition. Congratulations to Humda Salim Khan - Grade 4 and Minal Mustafa, Emamah Rehman Talha Ali Assad

and Aleesha Ahmed, all from grade 5 . Their winning pieces will be displayed in the Ahmad Pervaiz Gallery, Karachi Arts Council, 9th /10th March. The mounted artwork will be for sale, to raise money to sponsor underprivileged children’s education. Moreover, the art pieces will also be part of their permanent online art gallery at www.discoveringnewartists.org/artforchange

Grade 10 successfully showcased their IB MYP Personal Projects which included the design and creation of toys for blind children, Ukulele classes for students, evaluating their learning experiences and the creation of a mini aquaponics model/system to grow herbs in a sustainable way, to name a few. Perhaps check out the video footage on our Facebook page, TNS Beaconhouse.

I always manage to raise one issue in my Newsletter and this month I want to make you aware that the morning registrations are now being closely monitored with reference to ‘lates’. What this means for your child is that if they turn up late they are now expected to register in the Main Admin office, which is recorded into the BEAMS system. Coordinators will be monitoring this in the hope of having all students arrive in a timely manner. I am very much aware of parent’s concerns regarding traffic congestion but I would encourage you to allow additional time for travel to ensure suitable arrival times. 8am is the cut off time- but it is preferable to be on site by 7:50am, allowing sufficient time to be registered in their classrooms.

On March 10th I will be travelling to the UK for family celebrations and return March 25th. I know that I am leaving the school in good hands, however, I will continue to keep in touch with my Senior Leadership Team and Admin during those two weeks. I am only an email away. May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very pleasant Pakistan Day and a restful Spring Break. Please be reminded that the last day of school will be **Thursday 22nd March**, returning on **Monday 2nd April**. I attach a copy of our March calendar month for your information.

Dates for your Diary, further details to follow

Date	Event
7 th March	Grade 6 parent info afternoon
8 th March	Grade 5 parent info afternoon
13 th March	Grade 7 parent info afternoon
12 th and 16 th March	Francophone Day -assemblies
16 th March	EY Pizza Project
20 th March	Project presentations
22 nd March	Movie ‘night’ –led by Student Council

Warmest regards,



Ms. Diane Metcalfe
Head of School