

HEAD OF SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

21 January 2019

Dear Parents of TNS Gulberg and TNS DHA,

I welcome you all back to the 2nd term of the School Year 2018-19.

You will notice that I am addressing both branches of the school through this newsletter, as the Head of DHA (Ms. Diane Metcalfe) is still away in the UK on unexpected and urgent family business. **I have thus been asked by the Head Office to officiate as Acting Head of TNS DHA during this period, and plan to be in DHA on Mondays and Thursdays.** I held an all-school assembly and full staff meeting on 14 January at DHA and established my credentials going forward. My message to students, parents and staff is to know that the school is in safe hands with an excellent management and teacher-led environment.

To the parents at Gulberg, I ask your forbearance for this period, as I cooperate in ensuring a 'good space' for DHA at this time. I will be spending plenty of time at the Gulberg branch to ensure continuity there.

Both branches are blessed with experienced and long-standing senior leaders who are very capable of running the schools, so you and I have no need to worry on that front. I am still available to see parents even at short notice. Thank you for your understanding.

Both branches are in full swing and teaching and learning are the order of the day. But, I am noticing many student latecomers at DHA? Please note our last time for entry is 8.01 am and the school gate will close unless there is fog/rain and related traffic delays. If you know your child will be late, please send a message in advance.

Far too many students at both branches are wearing NON school uniform items of clothing. This must stop as must the wearing of any makeup or jewelry other than ear-studs for girls. I will be firm on these expectations.

As of next Monday 21 January, students of the MYP at the DHA branch will be retaking assessments in any subject which they failed in Term 1. If your child is in that position, please encourage him/her to revise as best he/she can.

We have too, at DHA, taken in last entries for the Bully Proof Poster Competition being overseen by the Student Counselling Department. We are making every effort to ensure 'NO Bullying' are bywords for a decent TNS. The final results of this competition and winners are:

- **1st Prize** - Mahnoor Zeeshan and Zoha Mariyam from Grade 5- Orange.
- **2nd Prize** - Spouzshmay Khan from Grade 7 - White.
- **3rd Prize** - Parisa Kidwai from Grade 5 - Orange.
- **4th Prize** - Wahaj Shahraiz and Tayyab from Grade 5 - Blue.

Learning Support and other afterschool clubs start at both branches over the next 2 weeks and registration forms are being sent to you. If your child/ren are being offered extra support in Literacy/Numeracy and languages, ensure they attend these intensive learning sessions.

At this time, all classes will be debating their options for the upcoming Project Presentations to be held before Spring Break. Your required input and participation in this central learning platform of TNS is expected. Consistent, ongoing involvement in the process would also be highly appreciated. Optional field trips relevant to the projects will also be undertaken.

HEAD OF SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

21 January 2019

I'm sure you all are aware of the present situation regarding the reduction of fees affecting a large number of Pakistan's Private Schools?

While we would certainly like your children to continue to enjoy the happy and quality education we believe they receive at TNS, *it must too be stressed that the reduction in fee recovery and the reimbursement of fees already charged, will inevitably impact on the depth and breadth of our provision.* TNS is proud to offer a more personalized and, in many respects, unique educational experience to its stakeholders – students, teachers, and parents alike. The fact that we teach to a regimen of 4 internationally-acclaimed curricula and approaches (Reggio Emilia, PBL, IB MYP, and IB Diploma) sets us apart from all other schools in Pakistan. We have enjoyed some excellent results in terms of learning outcomes over the years. Learning at TNS is proudly beyond classrooms boundaries and many activities – sporting, cultural, and social – take place as part of our central philosophy of producing well rounded, internationally minded (mother-tongue practised), global citizens of tomorrow. The TNS child is exposed to a myriad of activities, events, and internationally-themed sessions which ensure the All-Round individual. **But these extensions of the core academic programme come at a cost, as do our excellent teachers.**

As a result of this regrettable situation, we are left with little choice but to restrict our extracurricular programmes including Sports Days and Concerts, etc. until there is more clarity on how to pay for these activities. Indeed, the Head Office has already cancelled this year's **BISC** (Beaconhouse International Student Convention), which was expected to be held in February 2019 in Dubai. (TNS students have been well represented and successful at previous editions of BISC in Muscat, Kuala Lumpur, and Bangkok.)

In the case of Clubs, we will continue for now, as many are paid for by parents. Field trips, however, will now be optional and their cost will need to be borne by parents, as will Art and other competition entries.

We all pray for an early and reasonable solution to this present impasse, as I fear we will have to consider many core changes if the situation remains unchanged, as a mere reduction in extracurricular activities will not be sufficient to address our expected operational deficits.

On a brighter note, and as an amplification of the quality education we believe we offer at TNS, I am delighted to announce that our TNS DHA Head Girl, and final year DP 2 student at TNS DHA, **Dania Jawwad** has been offered a place at the renowned **University of Oxford** in the UK as of September 2019. We are overjoyed for Dania and her family and, indeed, TNS and its DP department which has been instrumental in ensuring Dania has arrived at this happy point in her life.

I request your sincere support and belief in our school, even more so during this turbulent period in the educational process of Pakistan.

With sincere best wishes,



Clive R. Barnes

Head of School, TNS Gulberg

Acting Head of School, TNS DHA