

# A Hearty Welcome!



TEMA  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL

MONTHLY EMAIL  
NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2015



DEAR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS,

## ***WARM WELCOME.***

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is hard to believe that it is that time of the year again. The new academic year is almost beginning and we hope that you and your wards had a restful summer break.

There is so much excitement in the school as we welcome a new academic year, new principal, new students, new teachers, etc. We look forward to sharing these exciting times with you. We know that your pride and joy is to get an excellent education for your ward from TIS. We will continue to motivate, teach, inspire and encourage our students to be self-directed learners and to produce their very best work.

Join us to congratulate our class of 2015 for making us proud with a pass rate of above ninety percent with some students getting above forty IB points. A summary of the results will be placed on the School Website after re-marking is completed. Once again, congratulations Class of 2015. TIS is proud of you.

## **RE-OPENING OF SCHOOL**

Prefects/SRC Executives are to report to school by 10am on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2015. New students will report to school from 12noon on the same day. A meeting with new students and their parents/guardians as well as prefects and SRC executives will be held on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup>

August, 2015 at 1.00pm at the school's Multipurpose Hall (MPH).

Continuing students are to report to school on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2015 by 5pm.

**Kindly note that the gate will be locked at 5pm sharp and any student not on our premises by 5pm will not be allowed to enter. They will have to come back at 7am sharp the following day bearing in mind the possible sanctions to be imposed.**

As mentioned at the last Parent Information and Achievers Day, a number of changes are being made to enhance teaching and learning in our school.

## NEW DEVELOPMENTS

### **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

A new Board of Governors who will support the Principal has been appointed. Members of the new Board which includes parent membership will be listed on the School's Website. The inaugural meeting of the Board is proposed to take place on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> of August 2015.

### **RECRUITMENTS**

#### **PRINCIPAL**

Akwaaba from the Tema International School Community to Dr. Ken Darvall, our new Principal. Dr. Ken Darvall, arrived in Ghana on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> July 2015 and officially assumed duty on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2015.

**Dr Ken Darvall** has enjoyed 42 years educational leadership experience covering all educational sectors in Australia and overseas, including primary, secondary and international schools, as well as training organisations, international business colleges, school quality assurance

reviews and tertiary study abroad programs.

To compliment his practical experiences, Ken's tertiary qualifications include a Teaching Certificate and Diploma in Teaching (Goulburn CAE), Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Educational Administration degrees (UNE), Diploma of Aboriginal Education (Armidale CAE) and Doctorate of Education (CSU).

Ken's focus over the last 11 years has been establishing and leading IB World Schools at: Al Jazeera Academy, Doha (PYP, MYP, DP) as Academy Director; Al Zahra College, Sydney, (PYP, MYP, DP) as Education Director; and SMIT International School, Tabubil (Candidate PYP and MYP) as Principal. His last position was Principal at King Faisal Primary School in Saudi Arabia.

Ken enjoys sports coaching, music, educational technology and research.

He is looking forward to making a difference and ensuring that our

students remain the focus of all our endeavours.

### **NEW STAFF**

New members of staff have been recruited to replace teachers who have left Family TIS. Management is happy with the quality of staff recruited and we hope that we all work collaboratively to educate our children. The new members of staff have been listed below:

### **NEW ADDITIONS**

NAME	SUBJECT/POSITION
Dr. Ken Darvall	Principal
Thelma Dekuku	Head of Boarding/Economics
Chander Dev	IB. Coordinator
Jerry Victor Hodo	Physical Education
Emmanuel Adu-Saforo	Physics
Regina Ama Owusu	Nurse
Emmanuel Osei Owusu	Music
Yvonne Tagoe	Mathematics (reporting in January)

Sylvester Wellington	Art
Aba De-Graft Johnson	English

NAME	POSITION
Elikem Kunutsor	Theatre and Drama
Clara Burgess	Student Support and College Counselling
Louis Welagaamo	CAS/TOK
Grace Kabukie Attram	CAS

### **MERGER OF CAREER GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING UNITS**

The Career Guidance and Counselling unit has been merged with the student support unit into one unit called the Academic Support and College Counselling Centre. This is located partly on the top floor of the Library in the same area as the University Placement unit and the office behind the Staff Common Room. This unit is to help all students, including high flyers and underachieving, to attain their maximum potential.

### **MATHEMATICS/RESOURCE CENTER**

Progress is far advanced for the furnishing of a Mathematics Resource Room which will be used by all teachers to facilitate teaching and learning. This Centre will work closely with the Academic Support and College Counselling Unit. It is located at the former Humanities Resource Room on the second Floor of the Einstein's Resource Centre opposite the Old Examination Hall.

### **FACELIFT OF CLASSROOMS**

The Classrooms have been given a facelift. New classroom furniture has been acquired and extra ceiling lights have been added for proper illumination of the rooms. The classroom block has also been repainted.

### **AWARD SYSTEM**

The Awards system in the school is being enhanced with the introduction of the Founders' and the Scholar of the Year Awards, beginning this academic year. It has also been proposed to

incorporate the Initiative Award into the CAS Award.

The Honour Roll System which replaces the Merit list will be introduced this academic year. Students who perform exceptionally will be awarded. The Honour Roll will come out at the middle of the semester and at the end of the semester, which means four times in a year. Students who get on the Honour Roll will gain points for their colour group and this will eventually be one of the determinants for winning the Colour of the Year Award at our Achievers' Day celebrations. Other determinants include excelling in Sports, Inter-Hostel and Inter-Colour competitions.

### **RE-ALLOCATION OF OFFICES AND ROTATION OF HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS**

There has been a re-allocation of offices and the appointment of new Heads of Departments. The locations of offices for various heads of departments are as follows:

<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>LOCATION OF OFFICE</b>	Chaplaincy	Administration Block (Top Floor)	Attah (Acting)
English	Top floor of Einstein's Resource Centre-inside the Exams Hall			Mr. Elikem Kunutsor (Acting)
Mathematics	Top floor of the Einstein's Resource Centre-outside the Exams Hall	<b>ROTATION OF HOD's</b>		
Science	Former Humanities Office-ground floor of Einstein's Block	School Management under the leadership of Dr. Mrs. Sylvia Boye has decided that there should be periodic rotation of the position of Head of Department within qualified Staff to bring out the leadership potential in staff and also to prepare staff to take up leadership roles. For continuity, this process will be implemented in such a way that there will not be entirely new Heads of Department at any point in time. The following appointments were made for the 2015/2016 Academic Year.		
Creative Arts	Ground floor of the Picasso Centre			Mr. Lawrence Ladson (New)
Modern Languages	Second floor of the Einstein's Resource Centre-opposite the Mathematics Resource Centre.			Mrs. Adelaide Ferguson (New)
Humanities	Top floor of the Einstein Resource Centre - Opposite the English Department (inside the old exam hall)			
Information Technology	Top floor of Einstein's Resource Centre (Computer lab.)			
		<b>DEPARTMENT - HEAD</b>		
		English	Mrs. Irene Koree (unchanged)	
		Modern Languages	Mr. John Mensah (Unchanged)	
		Information Technology	Mr. Eric Fudzagbo (Unchanged)	
		Mathematics	Mr. Nathaniel	
				<b>MENTORING SYSTEM</b>
				The Mentorship system will take off this academic year. Every teacher will be assigned a group of students (a minimum of 5 mentees) by the Senior Management Team.
				<b>CONTACT HOURS</b>
				Contact hours with students will be increased through the following interaction time:
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hostel</li> <li>• Grade</li> <li>• Pre-IG, IG, and IB meetings,</li> <li>• Mentorship meeting,</li> <li>• Colours' Meetings, and</li> </ul>

- Monday Morning Assembly

### **CAS SUPERVISION**

Every member of staff will be involved in the supervision of CAS activities. The list of CAS activities will be presented and supervisors will be assigned to these activities at the beginning of the semester.

### **CHANGE OF ROLES/NEW ROLES**

Personal Assistant to the Principal/School Community Relations Officer: Ms. Bijoux Hukportie

Front Desk Executive: Mrs. Georgina Anaafi-Mensah

Coordinator, Academic Support and College Counselling Center: Adwoa Abrafi

Data Management and Media Production Coordinator: Angela Semakor

Pastoral Care/P.E. Teacher: Mr. Alex Tay

### **Mission and Vision of Tema International School**

TIS Mission and Vision will be simplified, and the core values contained in them will be put on the School's Website.

### **POLICIES**

Copies of School policies will be made available on the School's Website.

### **SCHEMES OF WORK**

Schemes of work of teachers will be posted online and will be accessible to all members of the School Community including parents.

### **IB AND IGCSE RESULTS**

The IB results were released on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The pass rate is 93% with 59% of students obtaining 30+ IB points. Some students have asked for some of their papers to be remarked and this may result in an increase in the pass rate.

IGCSE Results will be released on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2015. Parents and Guardians who have outstanding bills to pay as a result of fee arrears, or misplaced textbooks, are reminded to pay as soon as possible to avoid any delay in the

release of the results by the School to them.

### **RESUMPTION OF DUTY OF DIRECTOR OF STUDIES**

The Director of Studies, Mrs. Felicia Sackey who embarked on a study of Institutes in the United States of America officially resume duty on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2015.

### **BIRTHDAYS**

Finally, TIS would like to wish our dear students, staff, parents and guardians whose birthdays fall in the months of August, Happy Birthday!

### **NEXT NEWSLETTER**

The September newsletter will be emailed to parents by 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2015.

### **FEEDBACK**

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We do welcome your comments and suggestions on how to make this newsletter more relevant to you. Do not hesitate to contact us via [info@tis.edu.gh](mailto:info@tis.edu.gh) if you have any queries or concerns.

Warm Regards,  
Dr. Ken Darvall  
Principal



## August 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				SMT meeting		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Staff Development begins	Staff Development ends Staff meeting	Release of IGCSE results Prefects arrive by 12 noon; New Students arrive by 1pm; Mtg with new parents & guardians @ 2pm	New students orientation & Prefects leadership training begins	New students orientation & Prefects leadership training ends with outing	Continuing students come into residence by 5pm	Distribution of textbooks to continuing students
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Classes begin			Sports sign-up (G7-G10, G11)	Co-curricular sign-up (G7-G10)		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Co curricular activities begin					Visiting Sunday

