Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Parents,

Continuous Learning and Seesaw

As we move into campus closure and Continuous Learning, it is important to examine our aims during this unusual time. In the Primary School, we want to:

- *Keep learning flexible and simple* - allowing students to access their learning at times suitable for the whole family.
- *Focus on wellbeing daily* - this is going to be a challenging time for us all, and we want to make sure that our students are coping well.
- *Provide regular feedback and communication* - though we are not able to meet in person, we want to maintain as much communication with students as we can.
- *Validate learning* - just as we do in class, we want to celebrate successes, provide feedback and share the hard work everyone has been doing.

Daily Expectations

Speaking to schools who have been in Continuous Learning situations for some time, it has very quickly become clear that we cannot expect students to be completing the same ‘amount’ of work at home as they are doing at school - demanding too much would be unsustainable. For this reason, we have looked very carefully at what we will be expecting each day - these are our Responsibilities. Other tasks that could be done are Possibilities - students can pick and choose from these, and do as many or as few as they would like. We are committed to providing appropriately challenging and meaningful learning tasks each day.

A typical day for Years 1 to 6 will include:

- A morning welcome video to check in and share an overview of the day - this will be posted to learners' Seesaw journals by 8.30am each day. Children will be encouraged to comment on this message with how they are feeling.

Two Responsibilities:

- 1 core (English or IPC or Maths) task per day - as a Seesaw activity
- 1 specialist lesson task per day (World Languages, Music etc) - as a Seesaw activity

A range of Possibilities:

- These might include wellbeing, reading, mental maths, spelling etc.
Every Wednesday we will aim for a ‘low-tech’ day, with activities not dependent on ICT.

Teachers and classroom learning support staff will be available online between 8:15am and 2:30pm, i.e. normal student working hours.

We are currently exploring possibilities for ‘face-to-face’ options, and will update you as soon as we have decided on which solution is manageable for all concerned.

**Seesaw**
The primary staff have been looking at a number of options for delivering Continuous Learning during campus closure, and have decided that using Seesaw as our main tool is the best way to proceed for Years 1 to 6. As we have been using it in our classrooms for the last year and a half, students are already very familiar with the programme.

**What we need you to do**
If your child is going to be using a tablet (iPad, Android, Kindle Fire) in order to access their work, you will need to download the **Seesaw Class App**. This is different to the Seesaw Family App that you already have installed in order to see your child's work.

If your child is going to be using a laptop/desktop, you will be able to access Seesaw with this link: [https://web.seesaw.me/](https://web.seesaw.me/)

Your child will be coming home with a sheet which explains this information, and gives them a personal QR code in order to access their journal. This will allow them to share work that they have done, access activities that we set, and respond to feedback that we give them. They will not be able to see the work of anyone else in their class. However, we will be utilising class blogs as a way to share work with one another. Your child's class teacher will provide more information about this.

**Parent Information Sessions**
We will be offering Seesaw Parent Information sessions on Thursday 19th March at 8.30am and 2.30pm in the Primary Library if you require support or have questions about any of the above. Please e-mail  [adangol@tbs.edu.np](mailto:adangol@tbs.edu.np)  if you intend to join one of these sessions.

**Home Learning Packs and Library Books**
We will be providing home learning packs for students to take home on Friday. This will provide some additional resources for you and your child to support their learning at home, including a school iPad on loan for those parents who need or have requested one. If you have not yet
responded to the TBS Digital Device Survey please do so as soon as possible, so that we can plan to issue devices from school for those who need them (you will be required to sign User Agreements first before students can take home the devices). If you wish to borrow additional library books, it will be possible for each parent to take out up to 10 books in their own name, with each child being able to borrow 5 books in their name.

If it is possible to ‘access’ the TBS Campus next week and during the period of ‘Campus Closure’ parents will be able to return and have new books scanned out each day from 10:00-11:00am and 13:00-14:00. We will confirm this arrangement as soon as possible.

We hope the above provides you with a clear overview of what we have planned so far for continuous learning for your child in Primary. Obviously, as we go forward and receive feedback from students and yourselves, as well as the experience of our staff providing the learning, we will refine and adapt our provision accordingly. We welcome your feedback, but please do bear with us as we move into a new way of learning. It is a challenging time in many ways, but we want to encourage all members of our school community - and especially our children - to remain positive about new possibilities.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Leahy    Abigail Buckland    Matthew Smith    Rianne Wiggers

Primary Leadership Team