Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Friends of TBS,
There is lots happening in school this week and next so apologies in advance for the many omissions I will make here. For more reliable information please do check the news on the website www.tbskathmandu.org or follow TBS on www.twitter.com.

The building work around the site continues to move on apace. The Sixth Form building across the road is back on track after some delays waiting for materials (mainly sand), the secondary cover for the astroturf is finally complete so the astroturf can be laid next week (hopefully!), the primary classrooms are also moving forwards with more plastering being done and the final section of roofing being put into place as I write. The contractors are very confident that everything will be completed by the start of Term 2 (and we are still hopeful that we will have the 3 dry days so the primary field can start being prepared for installation!). It is all very exciting but I have been very impressed by everyone’s ability to keep calm and carry on during what has been a busy and enjoyable start to the year.

This week!

Big Draw Assembly
Monday saw Ms Fanthome, Head of Art, launching the Big Draw which children have worked on this week in their classes and mentor groups. The theme was festivals and celebrations, so I am sure the artwork will be magnificent. We will all find out just how good it is when we buy our TBS calendars, which will be on sale before Christmas (and are ideal stocking fillers!).

Big Lunch last Saturday - Thanks to all who attended
The Big Lunch was a very pleasant occasion and thanks to those who came along. It was nice to see the children enjoying playing on the school grounds and I hope everyone enjoyed their picnics. Thank you to Mrs Sthapit-Priest (as always), Mrs Katharin Kinghorn for the excellent Pimms and to the Sixth Form students who were on duty raising money for their Dhading charity.

TBS AGM & Ballot papers for Governor elections
The Board of Governors Annual General Meeting (AGM) is approaching (6pm, Tuesday, 23rd September). Today, children should be bringing home numbered ballot papers and these can be returned to primary reception or handed in on the evening of the AGM. Information about the potential Governors will also be emailed today. If you prefer a paper copy of any of this information or do not receive a ballot paper please see Tumika Sthapit-Priest.

Primary Enrichment afternoon
Enrichment afternoon was terrific. I have never seen such excitement generated by a cupboard. Did it contain a gruffalo, zombies, ghosts, an elephant? We will never know for sure!
Primary Family Assembly! 2F next week
As always, TBS parents and friends are welcome to join us for the Primary Family Assembly. Next week it is 2F who will educate, entertain and amaze us with their class assembly.

Foreign Currency Collection
We are well on the way to our 2014-15 target of 1 lakh rupees. This morning Year 5 students assisted Mr Priest in counting up the Baht, Dong, Won, Dinars, etc and the total comes to approximately 20,000 Nepali Rupees. Parents and staff will be able to buy bags of different currencies on International Day. We will also be selling to any coin collectors our collection of defunct currencies such as French Francs and Dutch Guilders. In addition, we will be running a silent auction for special notes and coins such as a 1,000,000 Turkish Lira note and a $5 note from the Solomon Islands - anyone wishing to bid for these two notes should email Mr Priest (spriest@tbs.edu.np) with their bid.

TBS Toy Amnesty
Last years’ Toy & Book amnesty was a huge success here at TBS and our friends at DNC (Disabled Neulife Centre) were very happy recipients of all the toys and books that were collected. This academic year we are conducting another amnesty in aid of Suryadaya Bal Bikas School.
If you have any unused, or used but in good condition, toys or picture books that you would like to donate to the students of the Suryadaya Bal Bikas School, please drop them off in the Foundation 1 classroom.

British Council Universities Fair at TBS
The British Council Universities Fair at TBS was a very useful and informative event this week. Students from KISC joined us to speak to ten UK universities about subject choices, careers, choosing a university and the benefits of UK Higher Education. Thanks to the British Council for agreeing to bring their team into school.

Fill the Bucket! - Nepal Flood relief
Thanks to all those who collected relief items for the victims of the recent flood and landslides across Nepal. This was an initiative that was driven by a number of parents and children led by Mrs Clare Murray who liaised with Mr Matt Phillips, Charities coordinator. There were lots of donations and 85000NRS was collected to purchase essential items.

Secondary Parents’ Meeting - Year 7 and new to TBS students (Year 8-13)
Thanks to the parents who came along on Wednesday to meet secondary teachers. It was good to be able to say so many positive things and to give early warning where there are things students need to do a little better. For those parents who could not attend, please do contact your child’s mentor for a brief update on where they are.

Parent ICT sessions & CAT4 assessment/Enrichment discussion
Thanks to parents who came to the meetings on Thursday. The ICT session was very well received by those who attended, so please do see the website for the future hands on sessions that will be running in the coming weeks. The ICT sessions are limited to 16, so please see Manisha (email above) to book a place on the next one. Thanks to Mr Sunny Thakral and Mr Rohit Sigdel for sharing their expertise. Similarly, it was good to explain our use of CAT4 and also how we want to challenge all pupils including the most academically able. Perhaps the most important message was that we want to help every child make great progress no matter what their current ability. As teachers, we will constantly be evaluating what we do and trying to employ thousands of tactics to help children enjoy learning in its widest sense. Thanks to the parents who came and to Mr Priest for explaining how CAT4 tests work and are used alongside our range of testing procedures.

Bungamati DSA visit TBS
Today we welcomed 12 students from the Bungamati school to TBS and they used our library for their activities. Usually our Year 11-13 students travel to their school so it was nice to have a change of scenery and they had a great time.

Next week!
Little Angels Swimming competitions - Saturday & Sunday
Good luck to all our competitors this weekend! The Little Angels competition is always well attended and very competitive so it will be a great experience for our swimmers.

World First Aid Day - First Aid training at TBS
A large number of teachers and Sixth Formers will be working this weekend to obtain their first aid qualification with a UK provider High Peak training. I am sure they will all pass with flying colours and TBS will remain a safe place to have an injury!
Excellence at the Top of the World!

12th September 2014

The British School Kathmandu

Primary Parent teacher meetings - Mon & Tues afternoons

We look forward to seeing all Primary parents next Monday and Tuesday. This is a chance to check everything is going well and that your children have made a good start to the year.

Awards Evening Tuesday 16th September 2014

Next Tuesday, 16th September, we are holding our annual Awards Evening where we celebrate the academic, cultural and sporting success of the Secondary Section. Our chief guest is the Honourable Ms Chitra Lekha Yadav, Minister for Education. Our keynote speaker is Colonel Sean Harris, Defence Attache at the British Embassy and Commander of British Gurkhas Nepal. The Awards Evening will start at promptly at 6.15 pm. Please arrive early to be guaranteed a seat!

For the future!

International Day preparation and performers!

Wednesday 24th September is TBS International Day. School starts as normal at 8.15 but at 8.25am there will be a parade and all children and adults are asked to come in national costume and join in a parade around school. There is a Special assembly which begins at 1.30pm where children and adults are invited to perform a short cultural piece (like a song or a dance) during the assembly. Please inform Mr Gordon/Mr Cannon by Wednesday 17th September if you or your children wish wish to perform. Please speak to them sooner if you would like to arrange a practice. Any music that is needed to be played through the sound system should be provided by Friday 19th.

After the assembly there is a Food Fair (2.30pm-3.30pm) which is a chance for all nationalities to showcase their cuisines. It would be great if you could get together with you compatriots and start planning your national finger foods. Please contact Mrs Sthapit-Priest if you want to contribute to the International Day with a stall.

Photography Competition – Mathematics in Nature

This Autumn TBS will be running a photography competition entitled “Mathematics in Nature”. This is open to all students, staff and parents. Mathematics is all around us. Consider the symmetry of reflections in a lake or the petals of a flower. Pupils, parents and staff are invited to enter the competition by submitting a photograph they have taken which depicts the Mathematics in Nature in some way. They will need to give it a title which must include a mathematical word, (e.g. ratio, symmetry, parallel, proportion, circle, sequence, parabola, Fibonacci etc), explaining their photograph. Please hand your entries into Primary or Secondary reception. On the back of your photograph you should include your name, the title of your photograph (which must include a mathematical word) and your age category (year group or “parent” or “staff”). The deadline for entries is Monday 20th October.

Have a good weekend!