Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Friends of TBS,

Thank you to everyone for their continued support and we have had a very nice week so far in our new, communing with nature, outside classrooms. We will continue to be vigilant and the Board of Governor note to parents earlier this week detailed some of our continued safety measures. There have been a number of temporary and some permanent changes to our school staff as TBS continues to be a good employer and gives support to those who need it at this difficult time. Mr. Matthew Phillips, PE teacher and Head of KS4 flew back to the UK on Wednesday evening 13th May with the best wishes of all at TBS. Matt has been at TBS since 2012 and he travels back to be with his wife to support her through the final stages of her pregnancy. Ms. Patricia Butler was already preparing to take over the Head of Key Stage 4 role in August so she will take over this role a few months earlier than expected.

We also wished good luck to Mr. Rimmington and Ms. Fanthome who have decided to return home early, and we have also given some compassionate leave time to a number of staff (including Mrs. Deena Singh, Mrs. Mukhia, Mrs. Malla, Mr. Gordon, Ms. Bloor, Mr. Phillips and Ms. Gow) who plan to return in the near future. Whilst we will miss them and their myriad contributions to the TBS team, we can cover their duties at this stage of the year whilst pupil numbers remain slightly lower than usual (68% attendance this week).

I would like to give a huge thanks to all those TBS staff who have stayed. This includes our incredibly loyal and reliable dais and didis who have been uncomplaining in the face of personal domestic difficulties in many cases. The ground staff who have ensured this has remained a beautiful and peaceful place to be. The administrative team who have worked extra hours and weekends to support us all and to get TBS charity work underway. Our teachers and teaching assistants have been superbly calm and supportive in their work with the children and students. All these people have provided a safe and happy environment for all the children at TBS. I am sure no parent here will ever forget the massive effort made by these incredibly flexible, talented, loyal and resilient TBS staff at this time. I will certainly not!

NB - Follow us on Twitter @TbsKathmandu - it is another way we can get messages to parents if we need to.

Happenings & Events

End of term arrangements & TBS Activity week

A repeat reminder that school will end on 26th June with a Whole School Leavers’ Assembly at 2pm (which should finish by 2.30pm). TBS activities week runs from Monday 29th June - Friday 3rd July. If you have applied please check your name is on the list outside primary reception.
Primary class pages!
We have been working on simple and clear primary class pages that your children can use and that have the latest dates and events for each class. They also will have resources on them in case children do have to be away and will give you a summary of the main topics each year group will explore. They are very much a work in progress and are designed to be functional rather than beautiful (although they may be both in time)!
If you could encourage your child to regularly use the page and have a look yourself from time to time, it will be another good way we keep strong communication between home and school.

Foundation 1
Foundation 2 (Being finalised tomorrow!)
Year 1
Year 2
Year 3
Year 4
Year 5
Year 6
Follow the link to have a look! If there are other resources you would like us to develop on these pages do talk to the class teacher. Not everything is currently possible with google sites but they are improving all the time.

TBS Activities week!
Last call for the TBS activities week - please check your child’s name is down on the list outside primary reception. The deadline to book a spot was Wednesday but we will accept late entries until the end of the day tomorrow. Currently we have about 40 children signed up so we will be able to staff this comfortably and will have a very nice week.

Admissions for 2015-16
We restart on Monday 17th August 2015. In case anyone asks about admissions to The British School in August, we are currently close to our capacity but we have a last few spaces left in some year groups at the moment. Further details relating to admissions can be found on the website, Mrs. Sthapit-Priest can answer any queries via email (tsthapit-priest@tbs.edu.np) and Ms. Manisha Bajracharya (mbajracharya@tbs.edu.np) can organise a visit to the school.

Clubs & End of the Day
Clubs restarted with all outside providers and coaches on Monday - we currently have less children to cater for so there is a revised timetable (see Ms. Rachana Adhikari - radhikari@tbs.edu.np).
Please help us help you by not bringing children too early (not before 8am), picking them up on time and taking them off the site so we can reduce pressure on our staff. We really appreciate parental support on this!

Update on TBS retrofitting
On Tuesday the Board of Governors’ Buildings committee met with our structural engineers, CORD, who are probably amongst the busiest people in Nepal. Happily, CORD were already well advanced with work on our site and retrofitting and rebuilding will begin as soon as possible with the aim of being ready for the restart in August. Soil testing has started today which will give us more information about our site and we plan to construct four new classrooms, deliberately ‘over designed’ for earthquake resistance. These will be two storey and sited in areas that are a bit tired and less well used (the nurses’ station and the secret garden) and give us some more indoor classroom space in primary.

Update on TBS Charities
The response from schools in COBIS and FOBISIA and around the world has been tremendous for our charity projects. We have raised over £70,000 at the current time and we have also had a great deal of support from professionals who have donated their time free.
On Wednesday, we met our engineer who visited the Dhading schools and who has presented us with drawings for earthquake resistant buildings for all three of the schools we work with. They will be made using local materials and labour and they will take 3 to 6 months to build depending on the availability of materials. Last time we visited we took materials to help the schools set up temporary covered classrooms outside and a small team of our administrative and teaching team will visit on Monday 25th May to show the schools the plans and meet education authorities.
The level of support for our charity efforts has been outstanding and thank you to everyone who has contributed so far.