It has been great to get started again and I hope all your children have enjoyed learning with us this week. We seem to have quickly returned to the usual pace and lessons have been great fun. Our building work continues to move forward and from Monday we will be able to use the primary play area which I am sure will go down well with the children!

Exam Results Success!

Tuesday 12th August saw the excitement and anticipation of examination results day. Once again our students did us all in the TBS community proud with some fantastic results.

At A Level we have a group of students who are accessing some of the best universities and courses around the world with the majority achieving the grades they needed to get to their first choices. These include such good universities as St Andrew's in Scotland, Brown in the USA and British Columbia in Canada on courses such as Medicine, Music, Computing, International Development and Engineering. The students in the new Year 13 will hope to do even better as they achieved some fantastic AS Level results. Two students actually achieved A grades in 5 subjects which is a first for TBS.

Last year's Year 11 students have given themselves a good platform to work on towards their A Levels with great IGCSE results. All nineteen of the students that sat the full range of IGCSEs achieved the UK benchmark of 5 A* to C grades and four students achieved A* or A grades in all their subjects. And we still have another set of IGCSE results to come next week from the Statistics course. So far 45% of the grades awarded are A* or A.

Our new Year 7 can also be very proud of themselves with over 75% of the students achieving Level 5 (the highest they could have achieved on the paper) in Mathematics and English on the SATs they did in Year 6. We must also not forget our Year 10 mathematicians who sat their IGCSE a year early, 90% of them scored an A* or A grade. A breakdown of all the examination results will appear on the website shortly.
This week!

Parents Meetings - Thank you for coming
The various Parent Meetings this week were very well attended and I hope we were able to answer any queries and give you the information you need. You may have seen in the calendar that we have planned a number of information evenings later in the year (on topics such as IGCSE options, A Level choices, University applications etc) alongside the usual consultations and we will also put in a date on disaster preparedness later this term and some ICT sessions on esafety and ICT issues.

Sixth Form
We have hit the ground running in the Sixth Form this academic year and are starting to think about all things university related. We were visited by representatives of Colorado College before term even started, allowing school to make personal connections with their admissions staff. Day One of induction saw us being visited by a student ambassador from SOAS, University of London. Year 12 and 13 had the opportunity to hear top tips from a successful student about Sixth Form study and university applications, as well as being able to ask open questions about subjects ranging from choosing your degree subject to living in London. In two weeks’ time we have delegates visiting TBS from the University of Cambridge and on September 10th we are hosting a UK University Fair here at TBS with the help of the British Council. There will be an academic lecture and then the opportunity to network with admissions staff from 10 different universities. We are extremely lucky to have these opportunities and I’m sure all our students are reflecting upon what they learn when thinking about their own future studies.

Traffic! Congestion!
Thanks to everyone for their patience. Please continue be careful when coming to school and thank you to those who reduce our impact on the environment and the local area by continuing to walk or cycle to school. Those who may be travelling from further afield, could also help out by car sharing and/or dropping older students further away from the school so they can walk the last bit. The exercise will be good for them and they will feel good about their contribution to the environment! We also begin morning supervision at 8am so please stay with children until the duty teacher arrives.

Model United Nations
Students in Year 11-13 travelled to their residential Model United Nations competition last evening. We hope they have a challenging and fun time and I am sure they will tell us all about it next week.

Information for New Parents
There are always a high number of new parents at the start of the year in any international school and there is a lot to take in at first so we have tried to highlight the most important information into one booklet. This can be found on the website or from any of the school receptions. tbskathmandu.org/admissions

2014-15 Clubs
Clubs will recommence on Monday August 25th (with the exception of swimming which will start a week earlier) and span Term 1 and 2. Information about the clubs available was circulated this week. Hopefully, the children and students will find plenty of interesting activities and will want to do as much as possible! (As always, if something is not available now, let us know and we will try to arrange it in the future).

Staff Changes
Unfortunately our Design Technology teacher, Mr Karl Craven, has had to return to the UK for personal reasons. We fully support this and hope he can return in the near future. We welcome Mr Edwin Zwanenbeek and Mr Matt Rowe onto the teaching staff to cover Mr Craven’s absence.
Next week & Future Events

Charity currency exchange
Back from holidays with a wallet, purse or pocket full of useless small change from your trips out of Nepal? Why not donate it to charity? Mr Priest and a group of KS2 children will be collecting in any donations of foreign currency - notes and coins from anywhere in the world. We will then collate this into the different currencies and sell it for Nepali Rupees to parents or staff who may be likely to visit that country and be able to spend it. The money raised in Rupees will then be used to hopefully pay the 100,000 Rupees that it costs to take a qualified doctor to Dhading with the Sixth Form students in November. The Dhading Project work with three very poor schools in the area who do not have ready access to medical services. Obviously any donations of Rupees are also welcome! Please send any donations in an envelope addressed to Mr Priest to either of the school's receptions.

Yorkshire sings at TBS
There is quite a large contingent of Yorkshire folk at TBS amongst the children, staff and parents. If you are from Yorkshire, one or more of your parents (or grandparents) are from Yorkshire or you are married to a Tyke, please let Mr Priest know. As part of the International Day celebrations at TBS on 24th September, the Yorkshire community will be on stage singing their national anthem. So please don't be shy, there are about 20 staff, parents and children we already know about and I am sure there are some more hiding out there who know what happens if you go courting a girl without wearing a hat!

TBS Eco School Status
For those new parents who may not be aware, The British School Kathmandu was the first international school to be awarded the Green Flag Eco School status. Green Flag status is earned by a school showing a commitment to improving its environmental impact and a visiting Eco Schools reviewer assesses a schools progress. We are currently in the process of renewing our Green Flag status and at the moment we are embarking on a whole programme of environmentally friendly and sustainable projects. These include reducing our use of paper, environmental planting in the pond and around school, investigating better water collection methods and the possibility of more use of solar power, working towards becoming a plastic free site, introducing an environmental aspect to Year 7-9 Design Technology lessons and embedding environmental learning opportunities into the curriculum. Each class elects an Eco representative and they work to develop activities and a programme over the year. They also lead assemblies to maintain enthusiasm and awareness. Mr Matt Rowe is our Eco Schools adviser who supports the students on Eco matters.

Bungamati Community Project
The Year 11-13 group who work with the Bungamati DSA school will continue their good work working on creative projects next week. Students leave school at 2.45pm and return at 4.45pm.

Secondary Production Rehearsals
The rehearsals are now well underway on Wednesday and Thursdays after school for ‘Return to the Forbidden Planet’! It will be a treat!

Have a great weekend!