Principal’s Message

Time has certainly flown by and we find ourselves at the end of Term Two. Once again, we end another very busy and productive month which has seen our student numbers increase further with even more parents visiting our school to enroll their child for the new academic year which begins on August 24th 2009.

IGCSE

Our Year 11 students have now entered the most crucial phase of their IGCSE examination preparation as they focus their individual energies entirely on revising for their upcoming examinations. The Year 11 teachers are now available to meet with the students in small groups or as individuals during the course of the school day. In this way the students can benefit from targeted learning – especially in those subjects where they have some difficulties.

Key Stage 3

The Year 7-9 students have all experienced some field trips during the month of March. Further details in the form of student reports and photographs appear later in this newsletter. Next month our first Space Camp will take place and I know the students are very excited about it! More news and reports on this in our next newsletter.

One important reminder to note is that the students in Year 9 will sit for their Cambridge Checkpoint Examinations

Catering News

After surveys on parent and student to ascertain their opinions on the catering at the school, we now have data which clearly indicates that the majority of both parents and students prefer an alternative option to the school providing the food for students. With this in mind, we will now look at the options for outside catering and the operational procedures we will need to address to make it effective for Tenby International students. I will keep you informed of developments.

Staff News

The following staff are leaving the school at the end of the term:

- Ms Lee Siew Khung leaves us to take up a position in a private school in Penang.
- Mr Shahril Effendi will take up a Music position in a local government school.
- Mr Brian Morgan is looking to work in the commercial music industry.

We wish all of them good fortune in their future careers and thank them for their time and effort spent in the school. From the start of next term, we are delighted to welcome Ms Jessie Yong to our school. She will teach Chinese throughout the school in place of Ms Lee. Mr Stefan Dawson will teach Key Stage 3 Music in addition to his History commitments.

Finally, I would like to wish a happy and blessed Easter to those members of our community who will celebrate this festival.

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Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work.  
- Aristotle
**Year 7 News**

Year 7 recently finished reading *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* and the class, as part of their English studies, has written letters to the book’s author John Boyne. These will be posted next week… If you are interested in reading this novel or finding out more about Boyne, you can read the review on p. 4 or visit [www.johnboyne.com](http://www.johnboyne.com)

**Year 8 News**

Year 8 went on a field trip to the National Park of Penang. You can read about it in page 3 from Nurul.

**Year 9 News**

The Year 9 students went on a field trip to the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). You can read about it from Year 9B’s Norchamimi Nima (Shaza) on page 5.

Year 9 have also now submitted their IGCSE option forms in preparation for next year. The timetable will be issued in due course.

Students are also advised that they should be preparing for the upcoming Checkpoint examinations next month in their core subjects.

**Year 10 News**

Our Year 10 students attended a UK Education Fair put on by The British Council at the G Hotel to learn about their educational options after year 11. This included presentations and information from over 30 British universities who were represented at the event.

**Year 11 News**

Year 11 students have been studying hard for the last couple of months. But it is almost over – at least *this* part of their educational journey. They are now ready to go for study leave where they can concentrate on their revision. Students have been issued with their timetables and will be staying in touch with their teachers for the purposes of further revision during the month of April and early May.
Year 11 Assembly
Good Bye and Good Luck

Students gathered to mark the beginning of the end of the Year 11 students’ Tenby career. This is not the end of their studying but the beginning of their study break. As the Year 11 students began their final preparations for their IGCSE Exams, the Tenby students gathered to say good luck to them. During the assembly, the Year 11 students received words of encouragement from their form teacher, Madam Tan, and their principal, Mr. McGrath. Mark and Dominic, from Year 10, represented the students and provided words of support, thanks and comic relief. Malo represented the Year 11 students in thanking the teachers for their assistance in getting ready for the exams.

With less than 40 days to the exams, each student will concentrate on his or her courses under a self-study program. Their regular class schedule has ended but as Mr. McGrath stated: ‘It is leave to study, not a leave from studying.’ The students will be studying harder than ever before with a stronger focus. All the teachers, staff and students at Tenby wish them good luck.
**Year 8 Field Trip To Monkey Beach**

by Nurul

Year 8 went on a science field trip to Penang National Park to research food chains for Science Class on March 18th. We would be going to Monkey Beach. I was so excited because this was my first time I went hiking with my friends and teachers. It was really challenging and fun and we wore casual clothing.

Everyone from Year 8 took part and rode the bus there. When we arrived, my friends and I went hiking in the jungle. After a while, we reached USM Beach. While there, we walked along the beach. Together, Fatimah (Y8A) and I ate a lunch which we brought from home. After our snack, Oil and I went onto the beach to catch small fish until we were half soaked. Then Oil, Ronja, Fatimah and I went onto the pier. We had a very nice view of the water and beach. We saw a lot of big fish and even a very large jellyfish. After some time we continued to hike to Monkey Beach. I took a lot of pictures while I was hiking. There were a lot of difficult areas but Mr. Paul helped me a lot with it. I was very sweaty when I got to Monkey Beach.

At Monkey Beach, we were having fun. Then Mr. Chan talked to us and had us work on our project. Myung Jin, Nesa, and Suchaya were in my group. A lot of small animals, mostly crabs were being caught. I was so afraid of crabs. Then Mr. Chan asked us to stop and keep everything clean. He even told us to clean the surrounding area so that it wouldn’t be dirty. I had a lot of fun with my friends and teachers. I hope that the school will have another field trip soon.

**Year 9 trip to USM**

On Tuesday, March 17th, all of Year 9 went to the museum at USM. It was fun but a bit tiring. We started from school at about 9:00am and reached USM in 45 minutes. The museum was quite big and interesting. The first room was about the culture of Malaysia. It was very interesting. The second room was about Islam religion and the third room was about Science. They showed us a movie about stars and the universe. We also saw many technological things. After that we went for lunch. There was a lot of food but it was very expensive. After lunch we attended a performance and then walked around the USM campus for a little while. After we returned to Tenby, everyone was tired. I liked this trip because it was fun and we did learn a lot of things.
All the students of Tenby International and Sri Pinang gathered at the Sri Pinang Junior School to participate in the Sports Carnival. There were events both for the Junior and Senior students and most of these took place on the central field. The winning houses were Jerai (Senior School) and Tahan (Junior School).

After the opening ceremony, the students dispersed to take part in the events. Among the highlights were the Junior and Senior football championships, the relay races and the Tug-of-War finals.

The day’s organizers and house masters were impressed with the level of sportsmanship displayed by the students. During all the events, the competitors provided encouragement to each other and cheered on their fellow students. Two events highlighted this feeling of sportsmanship and school spirit: the Senior Boys Football final and the Tug of War championship.

In the football match our students displayed commendable sportsmanship consistently both during and after the game. By encouraging fellow players or congratulating the opposing side after a good play, they showed great Tenby team spirit. It was nice to see players at the half sharing the shade, giving each other a high-5 regardless of what side they were on.

The Tug-of-War championship took place with students from all houses lining the area and shouting enthusiastically to the participants. During the event there was a small sea of red, yellow, blue and green T-shirts; Senior and Junior students mixing together to cheer on the teams. Most noticeable were the members of the Tahan house who would provide a chorus of shouts to their teammates and the other teams - when they were not competing against the Tahan house. Most students who were finished participating were cheering on their friends, classmates or housemates, regardless of the colour of their t-shirts or age. This was a positive demonstration of school spirit.
Year 7 English class and ‘the fence’

If you start to read this book, sooner or later you will arrive …..

….. at a fence
Year 7: *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, John Boyne by Yi Guang, 7A.

John Boyne was born in 1971 in Dublin, Ireland. He has published seven novels, two novellas and seventy short stories. Most of his novels and novellas are about history. He has won two Irish Book Awards, the Bisto Book of the Year Award and many international prizes. One of his novels, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, was translated into forty languages and made into an award-winning Miramax feature film. (You can see a trailer for this film at [www.johnboyne.com](http://www.johnboyne.com))

This story is about a young boy named Bruno. One day, he comes home to his house in Berlin, Germany to find Maria, his maid, packing his clothes. Bruno and his family are sent to a place called Out-With: Out-With is a “desolate” place. There is a fence between Bruno’s house and a large camp that Bruno thinks might be a farm at first. At the fence, Bruno meets a boy in ‘striped pyjamas’ named Shmuel who lives in the camp. They talk to each other everyday at the fence. Soon they become very close friends.

I find this book contains a lot of good things. The book teaches us about World War 2 and the Holocaust. It also teaches us about friendship and there are a lot of themes, such as forgiveness, in the book. The thing I like best about this book is how the writer creates suspense, making you want to read on and on... My favorite character in the book is Bruno because he is a good friend and he is good at lying! My favorite part of the book is when Bruno goes into the camp.

However, there is one thing I don’t like about the book. I don’t like Lt. Kotler because he is brutal. There is also a lot of violence in the book such as in the Gas Chambers, the incident with Pavel and the treatment of the Jews in the camp.

I would recommend this book to my friends because it is an interesting book and it has a lot to teach us about World War 2, the Holocaust, friendship and the Auschwitz Camp (see below).

Further information/study…

- You can visit [www.ushmm.org.com](http://www.ushmm.org.com) for more information about the Holocaust.
- The book is suitable for Year 7 and above; parental guidance may be required for younger readers.
- The film is available to buy on DVD or can be viewed in segments on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

‘Arbeit macht frei’ ..... ‘Work will free you’....