



TPS INSIGHTS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION OF THE PHILIPPINE SCHOOL-DUBAI

Foronda tops first TPS junior -high batch



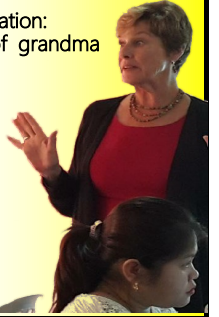
Francis Foronda page 9



Sports Editor bags gold at KABAYAN press contest page 20

Formal education: perception of grandma says expert

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'Report, Don't take any solution by yourself'

Dubai Police backs child-protection confab by Simond Lars Darwin Lenon

photo by Jeremiah Cerdon

During the seminar to raise awareness on physiological and psychological abuses against children, Lt. Col. Mohammed Salem Al Muhairi encouraged the students to report to the school heads if actions inflicting harm were observed in the school.

If unlikely incidents were also observed in the community, the official advised to cooperate with the Dubai Police through the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) contact numbers.

The Guidance office and the Special Education Needs (SEN) department of TPS worked with the Dubai Police to discuss matters of anti-bullying, prohibited substances, and juvenile crimes. The students of Grade 5 to 10 served as audience of the seminar, which was held at the multi-purpose Hall of the Philippine School on January 31, 2016.

Al Muhairi added, "Open your eyes and open your mind. Don't out take any solution by yourself. This is not your job. This is the job of the police. Just report. There is a staff who will follow up."

Professor Hind Al Rostamani supplemented that children need to be protected, and they need to be provided with a nice environment to live in. She also mentioned that children do not only need protection in school, and outside, but also in their own homes.

"Communication with parents is important. Children sometimes feel unappreciated and communication with parents can help," she added. She claimed that parents need to assure their children by guiding and listening to them, and at the same time respecting their privacy.

VP Binay visits TPGS

By Erin Mitchel Abadilla



TPGS Managing Directress Leticia Maniaul welcomes Philippine Vice President Jejomar Binay in Abu Dhabi

"Education must be the most important part of one's life, for it is through education that we get to manage our lives well. A person, who is educated well, is a person who drives the country forward."

The Philippine Vice President Jejomar Binay highlights these thoughts when he visited The Philippine Global School (TPGS) in Abu Dhabi on January 12, 2016. This is a part of knowing the plight and conditions of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and students abroad.

VP Binay was accompanied by Senator Nancy Binay, Former Makati Mayor "Junjun" Binay, University of Makati Dean Jejomar Erwin Binay Jr., and spokesperson Mayor Ramon Ilagan.

"I am happy that the VP included TPGS in his itinerary," TPGS Managing Directress Leticia Maniaul said in an interview with Insights.

World Scholars' Cup in Bangkok: 8 qualifiers from TPS

By Erin Mitchel Abadilla



World Scholars' Cup Qualifiers

Winners pay courtesy visit to the Principal Jocelyn Sollano (4th from left) and Vice-Principal for Academics Dr. Riza Danao (2nd from right). Also in the picture Ms. Dinah Goc (extreme left), coach and English Language Department Head

Selected students of The Philippine School recently passed the elimination round of the World Scholar's Cup held last May 27 and 28 at GEMS World Academy, Dubai. They are qualified to join the global round in Bangkok, Thailand on June 25, 2016.

Breanna Bagalay, Asheneth Macatangay, Eryca Mae Sulian, Natalie Lauren Javillonar, Beaux Consunji,

Athena Nicole Tivi, Caitlin Gonzales, and Gabriel Libatique were included in the 10% qualifiers of the elimination round.

The World Scholar's Cup is an international academic competition that consists of a debate contest, creative writing, Scholar's Bowl, and the Scholar's Challenge.

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INSIDE



Alde snags 9th in Danube Spelling



TPS ChariTree Project



Dana Martin gets poets' invite

There is no medicine like 'hope'

14 - year old TPSian survives aneurysm

She is the second youngest patient diagnosed worldwide.

Story on page 14



NEWS ||||

'Report, Don't take any solution by yourself' Dubai Police backs child protection confab

By Simond Darwin Lars Lenon



Eryn Mateo receives two Kidzania ticket prizes after answering a question from Dubai Police. L-R Lt. Col. Mohammed Salem Al Muhairi, Eryn Mateo and Professor Hind Al Rostamani

Lt. Col. Mohammed Salem Al Muhairi mentioned, “ While crimes are developing, the police are also developing.” He said that every year, the organization develops new equipment to counter crimes.

INTERNET ISSUES

The internet, according to Professor Hind Al Rostamani, is a vulnerable place for children due to their openness to cyber-bullying, catfishes, and malicious sites. The guest speaker also stated that the internet can expose you to converse with people you don't know who can be potentially dangerous.

They also discussed that online video games, and similar soft wares while stating that prolonged exposure to the screen could bring anxiety and stress. “The internet is a useful tool, but could be dangerous too. Use it without abuse,” Al Rostamani concluded.

THREAT FROM STRANGERS

Mrs. Abeer Mohammed Al Halabi facilitated a quiz and interrogated, “ How would you resist the stranger when threatened ?” Grade 8 Eryn V. Mateo enumerated, “ Walk fast. Scream- out help . Walk-away.”

Al Halabi detailed: “Trust your instincts or feelings ; Say no to unwanted touching ; Say no to adults' inappropriate requests ; Refuse gifts in exchange of physical requests (touching body) ; Run , scream, and make a scene; Physically fight unwanted advances; and Ask for help.”

“ While crimes are developing, the police are also developing.” - Lt. Col. Mohammed Salem Al Muhairi

Alde snags 9th In National Spelling Bee

By Gabriel Ian Maddara Photo credits to Deo Elaine Alde (Facebook page)



Jumeirah, Beach Hotel—Aeron Alde (4th from left) celebrates together with the winners of Danube Spelling Bee.

Aeron Alde, a grade 6 student of The Philippine School – Dubai, successfully clinched the 9th place of the fourth edition of Danube Spelling Bee Championship. This was held on February 13, 2016.

He was one of the 15 finalists, who were able to get through the four-month elimination process. Alde was also hailed as the Grade 6 champion in the competition.

During the contest, he said, “This would probably be an exaggeration, but I was a nervous wreck.” Aeron explained that after he got some words correctly, he started to feel more comfortable. It also made him think that he can pass through the more difficult rounds.

Over 2,000 students participated in the elimination rounds, but only 69 students were able to make the cut. After going through several rounds, 15 students were left to fight for the championship.

When asked about the impact of the championship in his life, he answered, “Based on my recent achievements such as the IBT, I was thinking that this could be more difficult than the IBT. I was thinking if I will still make it? Once I figured out that the words were kind of easy, the IBT and my result of the elimination round combined will send me into thinking, I can still make it pass.”

Aeron received a 2500 AED cheque , a tablet, and a camera as his prizes.

TPSians take 4th place in Kidzania championship

TPS battles with Raffles International School, AMLED, Indian International School in final round

By Violy Frias

Twenty grade school pupils thrived as third runner up in Brainiac academic championship against thirty international schools. This is sponsored by Kidzania on March 11, 2016.

The objective is to find the UAE's most gifted and intelligent students in 2016. Teams of five per age group (Grades 3 to 6) will be challenged with questions in order to win the grand trophy for their school. Individual prizes are also at stake. There were three

rounds: Qualifying Round/ Preliminary Round, Semi-Final Round, and the Final Round.

TPS won against Sharjah Scholars International School and qualified for the Semi-Finals.

During the Semi-Final Round, TPS battled with Australian International School, Sheffield Private School, Indian International School , and students managed to win and qualify for the championship.

In the final round, TPS bagged 4th and students had been challenged by Raffles International School, AMLED, Indian International School.

(See list of participants and winners on page 6)



Go behind the scenes

Participants review English, Science, Mathematics, Social Sciences, and General Knowledge for the final round of competition. (Photo credits to Riza Danao)



Quick heads up

Pupils after qualifying the semi-final round at Kidzania, Dubai Mall

NEWS

Typhoon victims benefit from TPS Charitree project

By Gabriel Ian Maddara

Dec. 28, 2015.

360 students from Calabasa and Bateria Community Schools in Nueva Ecija, Philippines received donations through the Chari-Tree project of The Philippine School Dubai. TPS team personally turned over the donations.

Chari – Tree was conceptualized to raise funds to help Typhoon Lando victims in the Philippines.

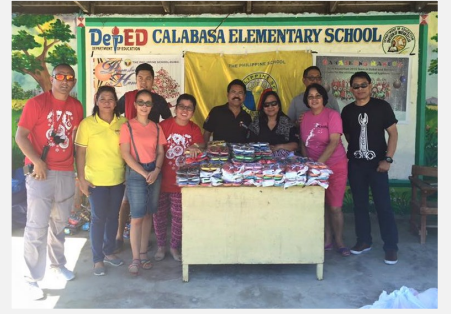
Beneficiaries received pack of assorted goods, toys for the kids, and cash.

The TPS Management coordinated with the Commission on Filipino Overseas in the Philippines. Based from their recommendation, two schools in Nueva Ecija, particularly in Gabaldon District, were visited by the TPS team last

Mr. Allan Cariaga, the Supreme Student Government Adviser, related how TPS chose its beneficiaries. “Since TPS community is known for being helpful and committed to those affected by the disaster or any other forms, the most affected group will be prioritized,” he explained.



Chari-Tree project in TPS Dubai



Charity sees the need

Pupils from Calabasa School, Nueva Ecija line up to receive goods from TPS. Photos from Richard Zulueta's Facebook page

Overseas Absentee Voting held in TPS



Parent - Teachers , Governing Council



Shared responsibility
Principal Jocelyn Sollano facilitates the first PTC meeting in November.



Be a part of all these and more
The PTC officers after action planning

Continuing Professional Development of Teachers



In the bull pen
Teachers equip themselves with trainings and they discuss the best practices of teaching.



NEWS ||||

Reaching greater heights through unity: 'Foundation Day' theme

By Erin Abadilla Photo by Bethoven Filomeno and Edmir Capuno



Happy 8th Birthday TPS
Deputy Consul Giovanni Palec leads the cake-cutting ceremony.



Deputy Consul Giovanni Palec keynote speaker during the grand opening



Overwhelming response Thousands appear at the 'Foundation Day' event.



'Maglalatik' Grade 6 finish first in 'Folk Dance' competition.



Grade 5 John Jhuriel Barreto, champion in Star Discovery, belts out the song 'Wag ka nang umiyak' by KZ Tandingan.

"The success of the programs is much owed to all of you who are united in sharing generously your ideas, talents, skills, and time."

School Principal Jocelyn Sollano expressed this appreciation, which is associated with the 8th Founding Anniversary theme of 'Unity.' Mass Dance Demonstration, Search for Mr. and Ms. TPS, and Star Discovery substantiated the events on January 22 – 24, 2016.

In relation to this, Deputy Consul Giovanni E. Palec of the Philippine Consulate Dubai served as an inspirational man of the hour. He appreciated the participation of the students, parents, and the school in making TPS reach its 8th year.

The celebration initially highlighted Mass Dance Competition, which generated Philippine festival dances, calisthenics, and dance evolution.

The next day, Mr. and Ms. TPS was the epitome of a fashion show in the school grounds. The pageant candidates expressed their insights about unity.

"With love, we can achieve unity in the world," said Mr. High School 2016 Nikolai Julien Oblina in the question and answer portion.

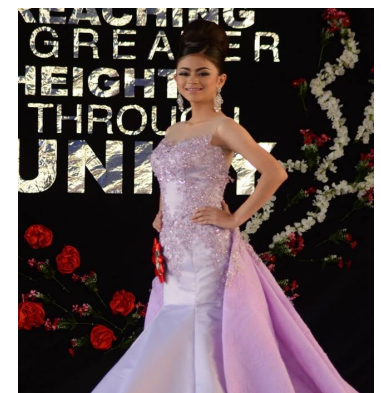
TPS Star Discovery was also a part of the festivity. This was held on the final day.



Ms. TPS Angela Arrozal and Mr. TPS Janrel Martin win the hearts of the judges.



Mr. High School Nikolai Oblina and Ms. High School Anna Kyla Cruz

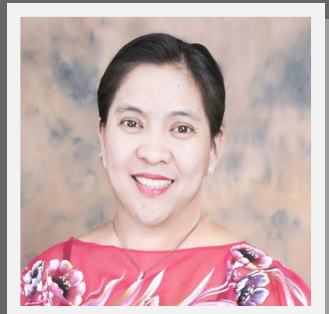


Keren Balia receives 'Best in Long Gown' award in the beauty contest.



Administrators, Mr. and Ms. TPS judges L-R Vice Principal Richard Zulueta, Bb. Pilipinas Beauty Queen Josie Conlu-Romulo, Principal Jocelyn Sollano, Contest Judge Jena Lou Malinao, ABS-CBN actor DM Sevilla, OSN representative Carl Calleja and Event Coordinator Jonathan Gulmatico served as mindful evaluators during the beauty contest.

Principal announces new appointments



Ms. Wenchelle Villondo
Special Education Needs (SEN) Coordinator



Ms. Hala Suwan
Arabic Teacher



Carry the day
Mr. Melvin Masula, chairman of the Search for Mr. and Ms. TPS, delivers gratitude speech.



Shortcuts to happiness
Grade 10 'Dance Evolution' performance gains victory in high school competition. Photo by Myla Jalauig

NEWS

Dana Martin gets prominent poets' invite

By Andrea Mae Teano

Photo by Raihana Mamayog



Shines in 'Poetic Heart' event

Grade 10 Dana Martin receives poetry award and rubs elbows with prominent poets. L-R Donatella Bisutti, Hassan Shehabeldin, Claudio Pozzani, Dana Martin, Professor Kithaka Wamberia, Dr. Shihab Ghanem, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, Hassan Aly Hassan Shehabeldin

Prominent poets notice Dana Martin's verses.

Dana Rone Martin is one of the skilled students in literature, whose original poem composition sparked the accomplished poets interests.

The 'Poetic Heart' is a gathering of poets across the region, and students from different schools are also chosen to recite and receive awards.

The Poetic Heart 2016 event was held at The Cultural and Scientific Association, Nadwa Auditorium on February 7, 2016.

In an interview with Martin, she mentioned that her inspiration

to write her winning piece came from a book.

Dana says that her poem is about knowing that 'You are not alone.'

Ironically, she didn't like the news that she was selected by the prestigious literary body. The reason was her nervousness to recite the poem; however, she clarified, "No regrets that I won."

When she heard the news, the first people she thought about telling were her friends.

The grade 10 students of The Philippine School joined the multi-national audience during her recitation.

Samiley perfects IBT English, aces Math

By Andrea Mae M. Teano



Ryan Samiley

Grade 10 student Ryan Samiley, who prefers a Science subject, achieved a perfect score in English International Benchmark Test, and another distinction in Mathematics.

He was glad about his achievements; however, he said that he didn't hit the mark for Science.

In his Facebook posts, he and his parents are proud of his significant accomplishments.

"To be honest, I didn't prepare at all. I didn't get lucky, but it wasn't easy either. I think, I was just mentally prepared at that point. I wasn't expecting to get anything special," Samiley supposed.

I was just mentally prepared at that point." - Ryan Samiley

"It doesn't matter if you're not at the top of your class or a top-achiever. What matters most is that you do what you can. If you can do even better, then why not? The only barrier to excelling in education is mentality; either you want to learn, or you don't," he advised to fellow TPSians.

Apart from Samiley, there were many students in grades 9 and 10, who achieved high distinctions for these exams.



KHDA inspection report 2015-2016

"The Philippine School was inspected by DSIB from 7 to 10 December 2015. The overall quality of education provided by the school was found to be 'acceptable.'"

- KHDA

To see TPS strong points, please visit www.khda.gov.ae

(logo credits to www.google.com)

Kenken qualifiers hit 77/103 mark

Staff report (retold)



The biggest mathematical puzzle championship opened its doors to The Philippine School Dubai, and 77/103 students qualified for the Emirates round on September 3, 2016 at Gems Wellington.

Kenken is a grid based mathematical puzzle, which is acclaimed by New York Times puzzle editor Will Shortz, to be the next generation of Sudoku. It helps students improve their problem solving skills; thereby, increasing their math fluency.

According to The Wellington International, they have experienced the interest of the student community for this puzzle since they organised the Kenken orientation session.

The Kenken Championship is an international level competition and was conducted in the UAE for the first time. The international level will be held in New York.

Wellington International hosted the school level rounds and they had requested all interested parents to sign up their children by either submitting the registration form in school or by directly visiting their website.



Kenken Facilitator Ushan Dar briefed the instructions to the pupils.



Mathematics Department Head Beth Rondilla supervises grades 3-10 examiners.



Kenken registration and orientation at Grade 8B
Photo credits to Beth Rondilla

NEWS ||||

International Women's Day lauded

(Credits to Kabayan Weekly) Retold by Daniele Allyson Serrano

March 11, 2016- The Saeed bin Towaih, Director of Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Center for Islamic Culture commemorated the International Women's Day at The Philippine School Dubai.

The Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities Department, Philippine Consulate General Office in Dubai and the Northern Emirates, and The Bayanihan Festival 2015 Organizing Committee collaborated with TPS to make a wonderful event to praise and honor women from UAE and Philippines who made a change to their societies.

In her speech, Dr. Yasmin Cortes, wife of Consul General Paul Raymund Cortes, congratulated the UAE for honoring extraordinary women with respectable positions in the government. She also said that she is proud that the Philippines has more female senators and cabinet members compared to other countries.

"In UAE culture, we value women more than men,"

Wafa Qasimieh, Senior Cultural Adviser at the Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities Department, clarified during her speech that she wanted to celebrate the International Women's Day with the Philippine Consulate. As a Filipino leader and a Muslim, she wanted to show her fellow countrymen and to the world that she wanted to change the misinformation and misconceptions about Muslim women proliferating the world today.

Atallah Habib, publisher of Kabayan Weekly, stated during his speech that women in UAE are excelling in both the public and private sector. Women are also significant in the judicial court, army, police, and in all government departments in the UAE.

TPS female students Erica Collantes, Menwa Buenaobra, and Daniele Serrano were invited on stage to share some of their experiences growing up as a woman in the UAE.

"I want to work hard to prove that girls can do it too," Menwa Buenaobra said.

She also shared that she is fortunate to grow up in a country where ladies are respected, that enables her to reach her dreams.

"Throughout my experiences as a female student and as a girl, I learned that I am capable of being a leader, worthy to be seen and I deserve to be heard."

- **Dale Serrano, Grade 10 student**

... From page 2

TPSians take 4th place in Kidzania championship

Grade 3

Gabriel Ricardo De Vera
Christopher Maningo Jr.
Clarence Pagaduan
Jerold Christian Ringor
Anniezha Hassan

Grade 4

Aliya Jessica Solivet
Eon Kirsten Constantino
Raissa Shane Dumagan
Kate Danielle Manzano
Antonio III Buenafe

Grade 5

Joshua Earl Sumbillo
Gabriel Labatique
Athena Nicole Tivi
Katherine Mae Aguila
Lianne James Gavero

Grade 6

Dorothy Enzel Yao
Asheneth Macatangay
Gwyn Steffany Maningo
Aeron Deine Alde
Drake K' Cidsy Chavez

TPSians join KHDA Saturday Club

By Ysabella Manlangit

Five students from TPS attended the first ever Saturday Club in Dubai and they had their first session on March 5, 2016 at the Dubai Design District.

The Saturday Club is a new KHDA launched initiative that offers workshops and master classes to students aged 13-16. It is based from the National Arts and Designs Saturday Club in London, which gives students the opportunity to study arts every Saturday at their local art university for free. The Dubai equivalent focuses on creativity and design, well-being, entrepreneurship, and technology.

Dr. Abdulla Al Karam, Chairman of the Board of Directors at KHDA said during his opening remarks, "The goal of the Saturday Club is to encourage students to think creatively and outside the box without having to worry about teachers or books."

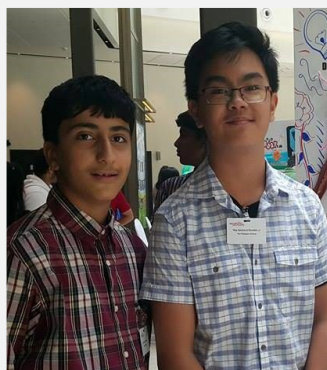
Sir John Sorrel, founder of the London Saturday Club added, "100% of students who joined the Saturday Club have improved confidence that shows not just in arts and we hope the same

goes for the Dubai club."

To get admitted, students have to write in 300 words the reason why they want to join. Entry is free upon registering. They will not be assessed or critiqued.

The club meets twice a month, every other Saturday for three months. Students who complete all six sessions have the chance to win a short course from the University of Arts London in Dubai.

Mr. Richard Zulueta said during the first meeting with the selected students, "It is a very great honor to be invited. Out of the hundreds of schools in Dubai, we are the only Filipino school there."



Rey Rondilla (right) with a student from other school Yanal Mario (left)

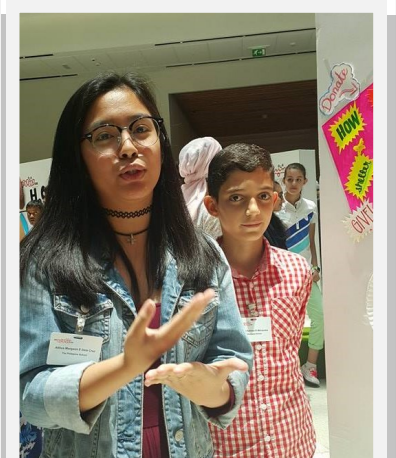


The members from TPS during the first session of the club. L-R Althea De la Cruz, Rey Rondilla, Isabella Manlangit, Shahaina Ardiente, and Resethail Sitson

"It is a very great honor to be invited. Out of the hundreds of schools in Dubai, we are the only Filipino school there." - VP Richard Zulueta



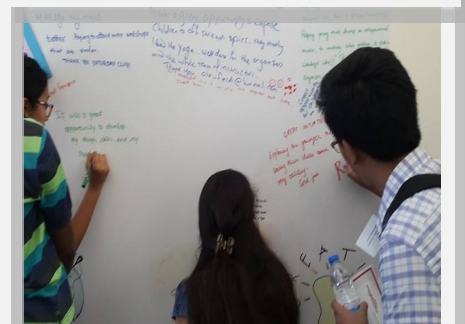
Princess Gamboa(right) explains the solar panel structure.



Althea De la Cruz discusses the importance of communication to meet the basic human needs.



Resethail Sitson (right) collaborates with other students from different participating schools.



Members write their thoughts about the activity.

NEWS



TPS alumnae Krizelle Paulino (left) and Christine Jorge (right) share about their experiences of Foundation Course in Heriot Watt.
Photo credits Allan Cariaga

Alumnae fortify career in Heriot- Watt

By: Gabriel Ian Maddara

“I chose Heriot-Watt because they offer one year foundation program which would be more helpful to my parents. They also offer different activities.”

TPS alumna Krizelle Paulino, who now takes a foundation course in Design, shared her experiences during the grade 10 students’ tour at Heriot-Watt University, Academic City on March 2, 2016.

Addressing the TPSians, “It’s really a great experience to learn a lot from them. You get a lot of free time and get a lot of multinational friends.”

Regarded as the first British University in Dubai, it has been ranked as 3rd in the UK by QS top 50 under 50 2014, No. 1 in the UK for Civil Engineering by Guardian University Guide 2015, No. 1 in UK for Chemical Engineering and Electrical Engineering by National Student Survey 2014, Top 10 within the UK for Mechanical Engineering also by National Student Survey 2014, in the top 4% of the universities worldwide by QS World’s top Universities

Ranked 7th in the UK and 1st in Scotland by Times Higher Education 2014.

The campus has an auditorium, basketball court, football court, food court, gymnasium, library, volleyball court, and a quiet study area. Accommodations are also available for students. They also have three campuses in the UK (Edinburgh, Scottish Borders and Orkney) and one in Malaysia.

Heriot-Watt University offers Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Foundation Courses specializing in the fields of Architecture, Business, Computer Sciences, Engineering, Psychology and Textile and Design.

A wide range of discounts and scholarship programs are also available. Most programs offer flexibility options which include part-time, evening and weekend delivery, as well as choice of intake dates so students can choose to study at a time and pace which best suits them.



TPS faculty members receive electric welcome from Heriot-Watt University administrators.

TPSians eye Murdoch University

Staff report

The grade 10 students had a campus tour at Murdoch University, located at Dubai Academic City on March 21, 2016.

“20 years from now, you will be doing jobs that haven’t exist yet. You will be having technology that didn’t exist yet. This university is going to teach you how to learn on your own and to think critically.”

Mr. Dan Adkins, Murdoch Dubai’s Academic Director, made a promising remark to the TPS students, who may consider the university.

The university stood 65th in the Times Higher Education ranking of the world’s top 100 universities under 50 years old and 9th highest of the 16 Australian universities included in the top 100.

It offers different courses in the fields of Business, Information Technology and Media Communication and Culture.

Students who wish to enter the university can either join by direct entry (completing and meeting the required international standards) or by enter-



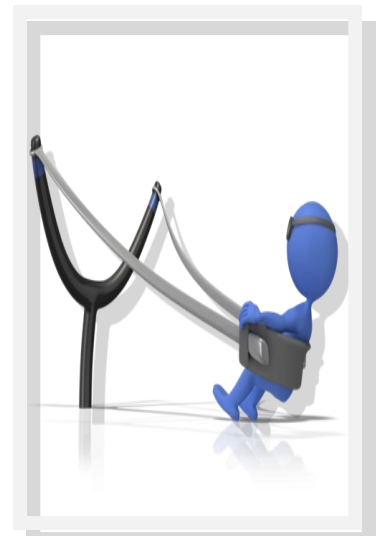
Grade 10 students Erika Parcia, Erica Collantes and Jamie Lazaro ready themselves for the school orientation. Photo by Glen Refareal



Murdoch career administrators hail TPSians during a campus tour.

ing their Foundation program (for students who do not have K-12 or equivalent in their curriculum).

Grade 10 student Erika Parcia said, “The best offer that they can give is to major two subjects at the same time. I can also say that Murdoch is truly a quality university with affordable tuition fees.”



NEWS |||

University of Bolton conducts career orientation

By Gabriel Ian Maddara



Ivarn Maghirang (right), a TPS alumnus now taking a one-year foundation course, shares testimonials in the field of engineering.

University of Bolton conducted a career orientation on February 28, 2016 to the Grade 9 and 10 students at the TPS Grade 3 Hallway.

According to Mr. Naveed Ejaz, the Marketing and Admissions Manager, for schools who do not have O-levels, which is a K-12 counterpart in the Philippines, students have the choice to either go to a school that offers one or go to their one year foundation program.

The university has academic partners in the UK to give students both Undergraduate and Post Graduate Degree Programs, specializing in the fields of Engineering, Business and Computing.

“University of Bolton's career orientation made me feel more excited about college, because they really did well discussing what they can offer you. Their students that shared their experiences in the university somehow convinced

me that it's a nice university, especially when I knew that someone who just graduated from TPS last school year is studying at University of Bolton,” Andrea Francisco, a Grade 9 student related.

Located in Ras Al Khaimah, University of Bolton partnered with Western International College (WINC) FZE and opened a new campus in 2008. The 42,000 sq. ft. facility houses classrooms, lecture halls, office space, a library, engineering and computing laboratories, a Student Council dining hall, a gymnasium, basketball courts, tennis lawns, a football

Boarding houses are also offered to students at a very reasonable cost.

The school tried to recreate the UK University atmosphere and ethos that gives its students the opportunity to study for a genuine British University qualification without the cost and upheaval of travelling to the UK to study. Students get their degree directly from UK.

12 hurdle UST Senior Program

By Gabriel Ian Maddara

Twelve TPSians have successfully passed the University of Santo Tomas entrance exams for their Senior High School Program, The results were released last 15th of March 2016.

A.B.M. Strand (Accountancy and Business Management)

Rank	Name	Average
355 / 3,155	Jahnea Denise Bermejo	87

Health Allied Strand

Rank	Name	Average
29 / 2,307	Gabriel Ian Maddara	90
143 / 2,307	Andrea Mae Teaño	89
346 / 2,307	Raihana Mamayog	86
776 / 2,307	Jamila Erica Lazaro	83

Liberal Arts, Education, and Social Science Strand

Rank	Name	Average
109 / 1,504	Cynara Danielle Nuelan	89
194 / 1,504	John Michael Zuño	86

Music and Arts Strand

Rank	Name	Average
337 / 670	Jeanuelle Creido	80

S.T.E.M. Strand (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)

Rank	Name	Average
155 / 5,857	Francis Allen Foronda	91
248 / 5,857	Jonel Almarino	90
622 / 5,857	Harem Mabugat Jr.	89
1,340 / 5,857	Neil Joseph Agcaoili	85

Civil Defense conducts fire drills

Staff report



Dubai Civil Defense demonstrates coming to the rescue.



TPS Security guard Florencio Laurente pretends as a fire victim during the demonstration made by the Civil Defense. Photo by Richard Zulueta

Careers brighten for students

By Glen Refareal

“Your future. Our Success.”

TPS Junior High School students underwent a career talk on April 25, 2016 at the TPS Grade 3 Hall.

The guest speakers were from different career fields. They were Lamprell Company IT Specialist George Sacdalan, Al Futtaim-Enova Engr. Francis Uy, Ministry of Labour Project Manager Froilan Malit Jr., Arabian Radio Network Brand Manager Dominique Famador, and Emirates Flight Catering Company Physician Dr. Marites Pulma.

TPS Student Council President Francis Allen Foronda warmly welcomed the guests with his opening remarks.

“Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow know what you truly want to become.” This quote from Steve Jobs was used by Student Government President in his opening speech.

IT Specialist George Sacdalan

The first who presented was Mr. George Sacdalan. He has already been into IT Security for 14 years, and he has never shifted career in 20 years. George said that there is a big career path for IT. He named several opportunities such as: Central Intelligence Software Operator, Database Administrator and System Administrator, which are just few of the possible positions one can acquire in the pathways of Information Technology.

He said, “It is important that everything you do is what you like.” The computer specialist later on mentioned that he only had one plan when he was still in high school. That is to work in an air-conditioned office. That was also the main reason

why he took computer science in college.

“Hindi naging madali ang lahat. There are struggles,” he said as he talked about his story when he was young.

Selling wallets and rags was the way for him to earn money at a young age. He also became a working student. “If you have a dream, just work for it. You will get it,” Sacdalan said in the concluding part of his speech.

Brand Manager Dominique Famador

The second presenter was Dominique Famador, who talked about ‘Career in Media and Marketing.’ She explained that media is a platform to get message across while marketing is to whom you get the message to.

She mentioned the three core values needed in her industry are passion, perseverance, and integrity. “It’s more about the values in life and reputation will precede you wherever you go,” she said.

Famador had been an Editor of Star Studio Middle East ABS-CBN, but in the latter part of her career, she realized that she wanted to serve the Filipino community.” In her final minutes of the presentation, she said, “Find what fulfills your happiness.” Emphatically saying that the students should pursue the things that will bring satisfaction.

Engr. Francis Uy

Engr. Francis Uy of Al-Futtaim Enova said, “It’s not about the school; meaning there are more important factors for a person to be successful than the school. This seems an ironical statement from a person for who had been a president of Letran MES, a Production Engi-

neer of San Miguel Corporation, and a handler of operations in malls such as MOE, and Dubai Mall.

“Engineers solve human problems,” said Engr. Uy. He added that intellectual development, job satisfaction, and financial stability were just a few of the mentioned benefits of engineering. “Focus on what you want. Each one is unique; you have your own abilities,” inspired by the speaker.

Dr. Marites Pulma

Dr. Marites Pulma explained the rewards of working in health care, and she clarified that in this industry, services are always in demand.

Ranked 7th in her medical board exams, the physician explained thoroughly her hardships and climb in her career. She summed up the three most required skills in her field which are scientific skills, communication skills, and patient-care skills.

According to her, there are also personal qualities needed to be an effective doctor. Some of those are professionalism, empathy and composure. “This is not showbiz, which is all glamour,” she clarified. She concluded, “If your learning is obsolete, you won’t be able to treat your patients well.”

Project Manager Froilan Malit Jr.

Ministry of Labour Project Manager Froilan Malit Jr. studied in Cornell University USA and Oxford University in UK.

He mentioned that when he was younger, he was selling Sampaguita flowers as his training in Lubao, Pampanga. The life lessons he shared to the seniors seemed basic

but according to him, those were his keys to success.

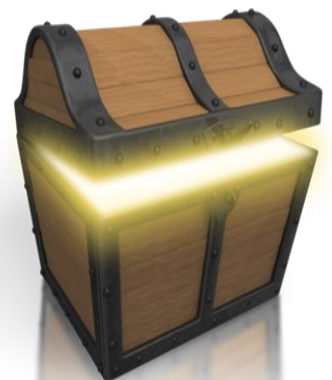
He stated that he was rejected in Ateneo De Manila University, and he was sobering for three months. He said that this downfall though made him realize that there was something more for him out there.

The 26 year old speaker said that in his work, 95% is made up of listening while talking only covers up 5%.

He also highlighted that he fought racial discrimination throughout his journey.

“When you speak, don’t shout. Argue,” he emphasized. This was an enlightenment for the seniors as they are taught how to speak with reason. Malit ended his speech by addressing the students not to waste the opportunities.

“It is important that everything you do is what you like.”
- George Sacdalan



Formal education: perception of grandma says expert

Staff report

“Formal education is not a perception of the young people. It is the perception of grandma.”

This was said by the Educational Consultant Barbara Fields, who conducted new iReady training for teachers on March 4, 2016. Diagnostic Test, Reporting, Instruction and Practice are substantiated in the whole day seminar at the multi-purpose hall of The Philippine School.

According to her, teachers must let students be engaged; however, students must not be placed on the same platform.

Fields elaborated that the usual teacher that does and presents the lesson and who was always providing the information is the teacher we popularly knew and is no longer true today.

“Classrooms today are very active and we need proactive teachers,” she introduced. Fields, who also became principal in Mexico, advised the teachers in terms of student diagnosis. She elaborated that adaptive testing, which i-Ready possess, is against standardized testing.



i-Ready Consultant Barbara Fields

Photo by John Marcel Villanueva

She said that adaptive testing drills down to a more specific information that the student needed, wherein, in standardized testing, the student sees the same questions.

She added that reporting of progress must be instantaneous and emphasized that i-Ready does that.

“Teachers are the most important persons in the students’ lives. All are educable and trainable; It just takes a little bit of time. We must introduce concepts when the child is ready,” she clarified.



Making a new man

Mr. Froilan Malit (middle) explains to the students the importance of having a plan to successfully achieve dreams. Photo by Joem Ledesma



Laughter soundtracks the seminar

Dr. Marites Pulma, Emirates Flight Catering Physician, cracks joke about Hospital ‘Emergency calls.’

FEATURE

Appreciation of language fusion



March 24, 2016 — Languages Day as it happened
Theme: Appreciation of language fusion through music and arts



Grade 8 students performed a Korean smash hit version of "Nobody", complete with a Filipino rap.



Acting well their part

Grade 5-E, champions for the interpretive dance competition, performed a moving story about the Philippines and its relationship with nature. Photo by Joem Ledesma

Step on stage life

8-B, champions of the musical dramatization competition, performed their entertaining "Prologue" from the movie "Into the Woods."



Mr. Arkie Nuque and Ms. Rhea Rosete, also known as D' Mentors, portray love team on "Ikaw lamang" duet.



Grade 3- A, champions of the speech choir competitions, gave a lively performance while dressed in the national costume.



Grade 10-A, champions of the pantomime competition, acted out a story about overcoming conflict and misunderstanding to achieve unity.



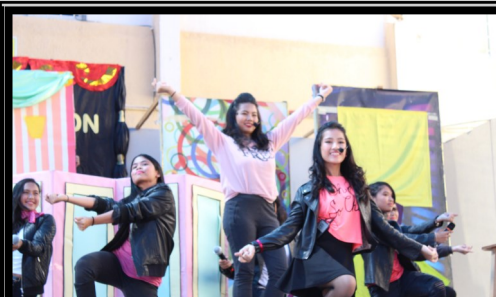
Interpretative stars blink
Grade 5E, champion of interpretative dance, encourage positive actions for mother Earth.



The final special number was a bilingual dialogue performed by Celyne Dunca (Cherry) and Ethan Punzalan (Paolo) about an engaged couple who fell in love with the same man.



Selected grade 4 students render Hip-hop dance in-termission number.



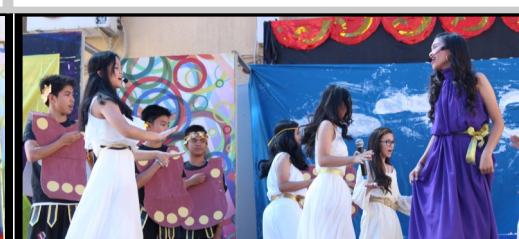
'Like Me' from Teen Beach Movie



'A Night to Remember' from High School Musical



"Gaston" from Beauty and the Beast



"I won't say I'm in love" from Hercules



Jack, "Into the woods" Prologue



Cinderella, "Into the woods" Prologue

English Musical Dramatization Competition



Photo by Xandrine Namocatcat and Thomas Firma

Mindful evaluators L-R Stage Actor William Agustin, Toastmaster Daniel Jose, Vice—Principal for Academics Riza Danao, Dubai Pinoy Big Brother Qualifier and Dramatization Sponsor Rex Loba, Social Science Teacher Admir Capuno, Dramatization Moderator John Marcel Villanueva, MAPEH Department Head Bethoven Filomeno, and English Language Teacher Joy Salinel

Right people in the right parts (Winners) L-R Best Actress Katelyn Jose; Best Actor(Ensemble) Ethan Punzalan; Best Actress (Ensemble) Bea Austria; 8A President Eunice Mendoza (for 8A group) Most Disciplined ; Kyla Buarao and Resethail Sitson (for 8B group) Best in Stage Design, Best in Costume, Best in Choreography; Best Actor Aldrich Espaldon, and Dramatization Host Ysabella Manlangit



‘ Sustainability, Mobility, Opportunity’

Staff Report



Grade 10 students Francis Foronda, Jonel Almario and Marielle Garcia showcase their outputs at the What Works Makers – KHDA event held at the Emirates Aviation University. Photo credits Romeo Ancheta

Frances Mercado, Aimee Hular, Andrea Francisco, and Yzabel Salibio of Grade 9 A, won the below 2.5 meter category. These group of students, along with the runner-ups: Carlos Garcia, Kaye Villanueva, Conn Himan, and Julienne Sioson of the Grade 7 were chosen to represent the school in KHDA last November 9, 2015.

The students were also given the opportunity to apply their knowledge in cooking and show appreciation to their Filipino Roots. Lutong Pinoy was held last November 12, 2015 for the primary level, who were assisted by their parents. Intermediate level carried-out the same activity on November 17, 2015, thereafter the high school Level on November 18, 2015.

WINNERS:

- I. High School:**
 1st – Grade 8 C
 2nd – Grade 10 A
 3rd – Grade 9 B

- II. Intermediate:**
 1st – Grade 4 D
 2nd – Grade 5 B
 3rd – Grade 6 E

These words are part of the themes that were focused on as the students of The Philippine School show their excellence and proficiency in technology, creativity, and culinary arts during the TLE and ICT Department’s Culminating Activity which was celebrated on November 2015.

Different activities that emphasized the themes: Innovation and Appreciation to the UAE and Filipino Culture and Heritage were held such as the Recycling Competition, Lutong Pinoy, and the Photography Contest.

The Recycling Competition was held on November 1 – 4, 2015. Students from both Intermediate and High School levels participated in the said event.

There were two categories for which students could enter in the above 2.5 meter innovation, and the below 2.5 meter innovation. The students were given time to prepare the materials and blueprint to create their project. The respective champions of these competition are Jonel Almario, Francis Foronda, Marielle Garcia, and Cynara Nuelan of Grade 10 A. They won the above 2.5 meter category.

Photography contest ensued. The participants were encouraged to take their best photograph that would show appreciation and gratitude to the UAE culture. Photo submissions started on the 9th of November and were closed on the 18th of November 2015. The participants were required to print and frame their photographs, and the submissions were hanged on the ICT Department hallway. The winners are Alexis Manalastas (1st place), Nicole Montinola (2nd place), Jeremiah Cerdon (3rd place).



Thousands enjoy festivities at TPS Food and Craft Fair



Making the food tastes like love
 TPS Covered Court
 May 24, 2016
 Photo by Jeremiah Cerdon

NEWS



Where are Science and Math going?

By Glen Refareal

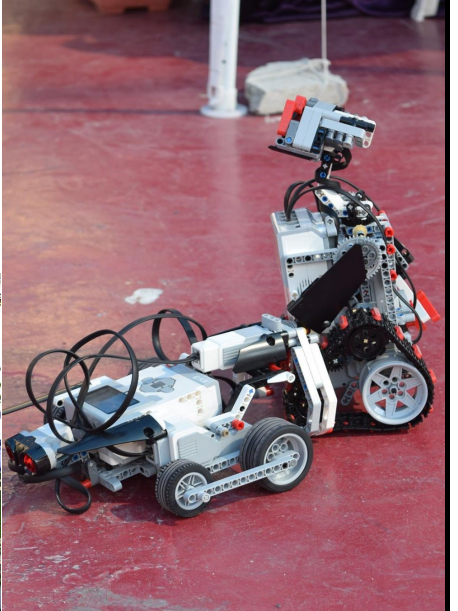
The first ever Sci-Math-Tech festival was orchestrated and made into reality on the 21st of February 2016. The purpose of this event was to showcase different apps and demonstrations regarding the subjects Science and Mathematics, which can be useful in a student's life.

The presentations were clearly instructed to be innovative. The participating presenters were selected high school students. All of the students of The Philippine School Dubai became the audience of the said event. Some of the presenters also roamed around and experienced the role of being spectators in others' demonstrations.

A variety of applied creative ideas and theories were manifested by the young, bright, and witty students of TPS. For example, "Project TPX" is planned to be a drone which will serve as a replacement for phones and assistants.

"TPS students have the capacity to go beyond the walls of the classroom. They have vision that can be realized given the right opportunity and timing. Sci-Math-Tech teachers serve as the salt of the event where they become invisible by letting the student shine on that day. With the teacher trusting the students capacity to spread future learning tools, that makes the event successful," Mr. Felipe De Leon, the ICT in-charge said.

Photo by Joem Ledesma and Jeremiah Cerdon



FEATURE ||||

There is no medicine like 'hope'

By Jizette Ibarra

Hopeless. Weak. Yra is none of those things.

Yra Guiwan, an 8th grader, was diagnosed with aneurysm, but she still managed to say that it was the greatest blessing in her life.

According to Webster's dictionary, Aneurysm is an abnormal blood-filled bulge of a blood vessel and especially an artery resulting from weakening (as from disease) of the vessel wall

"When I found out about it, I was sitting on a wheelchair in my doctor's office. As a fourteen year-old, sitting in a wheelchair and wearing sunglasses because the slight reflection of light hurts was definitely not a good condition," she narrated.

The next thing she remembered was being rushed to the emergency room and waking up in the ICU, with a lot of wires attached to her body. "That's when I realized that I was sick, very sick," she recalled.

Her aneurysm is rare case and genetic, so she's bound with it for the rest of her lifetime. It's mostly for the elderly because when they get older they get weaker, thus their veins also

weaken. In her case, she was born with weak veins in her brain, but she was able to fight until the end and actually won it.

When asked about her inspiration, she answered, "My family, especially my mother. I would patiently wait for her and she would stay beside me, smiling like nothing is wrong. She gave me the strength I barely had."

Healing process was of course, never easy. After the operation, she was miraculously recovering fast and was transferred to a normal room. She was given the news that she will be discharged, but the doctor came again. He only brought bad news to her. She wasn't fully healed and they had to take another operation early morning the next day. She stated that it was scary but God made her realize that He loves her very much.

There was nothing she could do but pray and battle her illness in her head until the end.

After overcoming her challenges, she shared, "God will never give you challenges you cannot conquer."

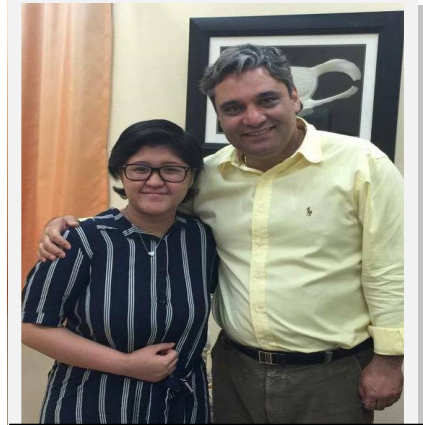
She advised, "You may be confused as to why you are suffering, but remember that you cannot



Second youngest Aneurysm patient worldwide
Recovering Yra at the Intensive Care Unit of Iranian Hospital, Al Satwa, Dubai (December 2015 photo) Photo supplied by Yra Guiwan

love and have faith in God only when the situation allows you to."

My aneurysm is the greatest blessing of my life. I may be sick for the rest of my lifetime but it serves as a proof that God loves me and He once used me as a miracle and inspiration to other people.
- Yra Guiwan



Not giving up
Yra Guiwan with her Specialist Neuro Surgeon Dr. Alireza Taghikhani during her follow-up check-up on May 29, 2016.



Dan Rommel Riopay

Dan Rommel Riopay won as the Best Stage Director for non-musical theater productions in the 2015 Aliw Awards, and he had good stories to tell in maximizing potentials.

Aliw Awards is the most prestigious award-giving body for live entertainment industry in the Philippines. Riopay was awarded for his theatrical excellence in directing Luciano Valencia's "Dhahran, Queens, Manila," last December 2015 at the Star Theater. Even before that, he has able to uplift his theater company, the Tanghalang SLU, to tremendous heights of artistic excellence. He is a Director, an

Actor, a Lighting Designer, and a trained Stage Manager.

TPS Insights Associate Editor Martin Marquez, in an interview, asked how does theater work if treated as a career. The theater coach acquainted, "Being in the theater arts scene both as an entertainment business and an academic profession is such a marvelous job. It has full of energy but the demands are high stakes. You get to deal with your creativity and competent values to work with people. It is like having fun and at the same time, focusing on a specific target to meet the demands of your audience in a fast-paced working environment. But the thing is, you really have to

Get purified version of real life

2015 Aliw Awards Best Stage Director for non-musical shares experiences to TPSians

By Martin Andrei Marquez
Photo by Ivan Icao

Riopay to TPSians: "The best things in life are just around the corner if you believe and commit to the craft"

have a sense of good work ethics, a deep sense of commitment and a convincing passion to develop and create enormous artistic work. Passion + Drive + Discipline + Focus + you really love what you are doing = success."

The people around him, young and enthusiastic theater his wife, family, and friends are people,"he said.

Mr. Riopay considers his chosen career as one of his best decisions in life. He hadn't planned on taking this job. In his younger years, he planned to take Foreign Service but eventually ended up taking Communications in Saint Louis University, Baguio City.

ADVICE TO TPS PERFORMERS
"My only advice to TPS students or to young learners would be to 'LOVE' theater as an art and engage in its spectacle as you have to learn how things work in this field. SEE theater not only as a hobby but a long-term career. Get into Theater, EXPLORE. LEARN and have fun! After all, the best things in life are just around the corner if you believe and commit to the craft."

FEATURE

'Very married'

By Daniele Serrano and Glenn Refareal Photo by Edmir Capuno



Love Brimming
TPS KG Teacher Gretchen Cano was married to Nestle Merchandiser Tristan Pineda on December 17, 2015.

Newly weds!
KG Teacher Gretchen Cano and husband Tristan Pineda know the proper mindset or right beliefs of romantic relationships.

"I learned this recently; do not look for the perfect person, be the perfect person," said Gretchen Cano. When asked about what she would like to share from her experiences as a wife. "Do not look for Mr. Right or Ms. Right instead be

someone who is right for somebody," she continued.

Gretchen Cano and his husband, who is currently working at Nestle as a merchandiser, was married last December 17, 2016. Insights asked what was the biggest difference in her life between being single and married, she answered, "The biggest difference would be freedom. Because if you're single, you can go wherever and do whatever you want. Now that I'm married, I have to consult my husband with

everything. All the decisions should not come from just the one of us but to consult each other first before deciding."

The young but experienced teacher also shared her biggest adjustments which she stated, "It is not easy. It seems simple that both of you will decide but it really is hard because you two are both different individuals. Maybe sometimes you will both have the same opinions but most of the times your opinions are in contrast with each other."

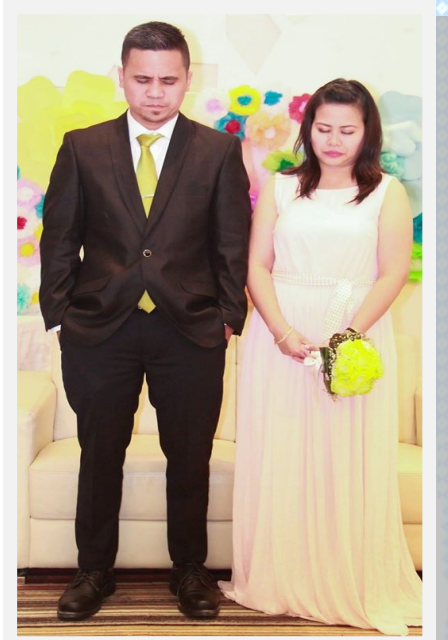
When asked how she deals with this situation, she answered, "It is a sacrifice sometimes. Sacrifice such as you should just give way and give respect also."

Like in every couple, they also faced obstacles. But fortunately, they have never encountered a devastating difficulty, yet due to the fact that they already contain problems before getting worse. She said, "We will not wait for the issue to become big. We have to deal with it as what it is to prevent making it huge."

As of their plans, their main focus now is their upcoming baby as Gretchen Cano is pregnant. Soon to be mother, Gretchen stated that she could relate more to her students now. She added, "I realized 'wow, it is coming soon'

because I've been teaching for so many years so I felt that I was their mother. But it is now that feels it is a real thing because I will give birth to a child of my own."

She gave a piece of advice before our interview ended for the students who are starting to enter into a relationship. She said, "I want to emphasize that do not look for the right person, be the right person. It is a big responsibility to get into a relationship. You have to pray for it. You need guidance from God and you absolutely need to think about it," Teacher Gretchen Cano concluded.



Prayers fill Tristan -Gretchen wedding

Kidzania Tour: Kids take time to unplug



Photo by Carol Cureg



||| FEATURE

Trekkers and Wanderlust



Shanina Cuarto in Singapore
“Travelling. It leaves you speechless. Then turns you into a storyteller”
-Ibn Batuta



Keisha Manalo in Armenia
“Travelling to a place you have never seen before is a life experience worth treasuring for”
- Anonymous



Claire Figueroa in USA
“You only need to look around and you'll be breathless and speechless at the beauty of Disney”
- Claire



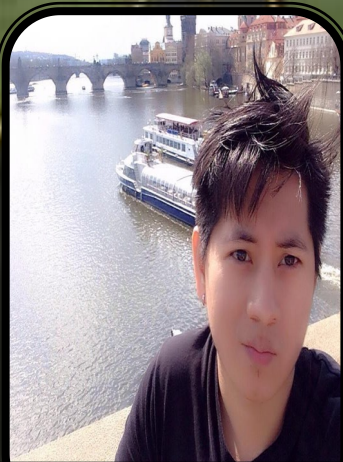
Erla Masangkay in Georgia, Europe
“It has one of the most stunning places the world has to offer, and the people there will definitely conquer your heart as they, within seconds will treat you like family!”
-Erla



Kaye Alliana Villanueva in Prague, Germany and Rome
“I want to make memories all over the world”



Khelvin Parico in USA
“We travel not to escape life but for life not to escape us”
-Anonymous



Mhark Dela Cruz in Prague
“Travel makes one modest. You see what a tiny place you occupy in the world.” - Gustave Flaubert



Bethoven Filomeno in Tbilisi, Georgia
“One's destination is never a place, but a new way of seeing things.” - Henry Miller

Photo supplied by subjects

FEATURE IIII



JS Promenade 2016
@Dusit Thani Hotel, Dubai
Photo by Bethoven Filomeno

OPINION ||||



DESERT PEN

Erin Mitchel J. Abadilla
Editor-in-Chief, TPS Insights

EDITORIAL

Take pride as global Filipino students

TPSian international excellence rings true! Not only because we stir ourselves up for international competitions and international travels, but we also take pride in putting esteem on our Filipino culture. This is manifested through our school's cooperation during the 118th Philippine Independence Day at the World Trade Center. We also mix well with multi-national cultures there. They are present, and they say good things about us.

Being a global student means someone who is knowledgeable about the world, and likes to explore other cultures. Therefore, the global Filipino student is open-minded; delighting in other cultural options. We will showcase TPSians who have taken pride and actions as global students.

Along with the expansion of TPS is its growth in international competitiveness. Students learn and acquaint themselves with foreign best practices through social interactions in international competitions, immersions or seminars.

We are at par with the international minds. This is evidently proven by grade 10 Ryan Samiley, who perfected the International Benchmark Test in English. He also treated-Mathematics IBT as a piece of cake by receiving a distinction in this subject.



Moreover, We didn't falter adding feather to our cap. Our IBT excellence created a ripple effect when selected students of grade 5A and grade 6A qualified for the prestigious World Scholar's Cup. This gives them door to compete in Bangkok, Thailand for the global round.

In the field of Mathematics, TPS primary and secondary levels participated in Kenken International Championship. Significant numbers received recognition, medals, and certificates from the organization.

Competence does not end there. Aeron Alde, a consistent international achiever from The Philippine School, snags 9th in Danube International Spelling Bee Contest.

We are not only internationally competitive, but we are also international travellers.

As we reflect in our *Trekkers and Wanderlust* section in every TPS Insights publication, we narrate to you how culturally diverse and intelligent TPSians are. They directly experience what other nationalities believe in.

We conducted interviews on people who had personally flown to other nations. The countries and cultures we read on books may be brought to life.

"We'll be able to learn how to handle different types of people, and we become more communicative," Grade 9 Lianne Garcia said.

It is better to be more open to new concepts for us to be more understanding, and so that there will be no boundary to our abilities. Super thank you for not underestimating your abilities.

More of the same will just produce more of the same. More competitiveness is more growth.

Congratulations Filipino student in an international soil. You serve as models for other students in the world to emulate.



Letter to the Editor



Undersecretary Manuel L. Quezon III

Erin Mitchel J. Abadilla
Editor-in-chief
TPS Insights
The Philippine School- Dubai

Dear Ms. Abadilla,

Congratulations to you and your editorial team for this second publication of TPS Insights. It gives me great pleasure to be part of this milestone in your school's history, and to contribute to this ongoing discourse on community and cultural connection.

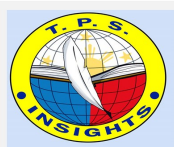
In preserving our shared culture abroad, your teachers, staff, and students represent the truly global Filipino. Personally, I believe this inherent connection is made even stronger by the physical distance between Dubai and the Philippines—a distance traversed daily at your school, whenever you exhibit Filipino values, discuss Philippine history, or engage each other on relevant issues facing the country today.

This is especially true of your student writers, who from a young age exercise the opportunity to think and write critically. To them I share the wisdom of the late Teodoro M. Locsin Sr., who once explained the freedom of the editor as: the freedom to study, freedom to think, and freedom to express oneself.

In this age of easily accessible information, all of us have the freedom to study—and therefore also the freedom to think for ourselves. But as Locsin said: "It is not enough to be serious, to be free—one must earn the right to be taken seriously." He added: "Journalism as a craft calls for skill, for scrupulousness, for integrity." Among these three, it is the last I wish to highlight. With the pen comes the necessary burden of responsibility, and it falls on us to choose—whether to write solely for ourselves or in service of the truth. The answer may not always come easily, but let us remember that our decision will reveal not only our character but also reflect on our community and country.

Sincerely,

Manuel L. Quezon III
Undersecretary
Presidential Communications Development
and Strategic Planning



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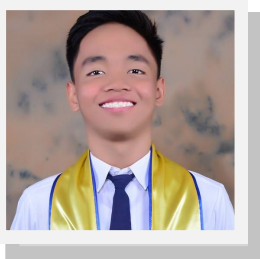
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OPINION

SSG President bares achievements, good governance

Merit of Debate

By Simond Lars Lenon



TOE THE LINE

**Francis Foronda,
SSG President**

The Supreme Student Government is a quintessential school organization used to represent the student body. As the year comes to an end, we take this opportunity to tell you our accomplishments, for it is your right to know and realize what the people you've voted for has done.

We have attended a Green Hope conference, in which our school has been actively participating in, and we represented the school not only in wits, but also in its speaking prowess, earning the school an award for endorsing the importance of Gender Equality in taking care of the environment. We were taught how to nurture nature and make the world a little greener by planting.

We used the knowledge we had in the Green Hope conference, and together with the TPS administration, we started the school's environment Program. We started by creating

the first plant box inside the vicinity of the school to promote a green environment with the help of some good-willed TPS volunteers. After that, we started the campaign for the 'Proper Waste Segregation' especially to the KG pupils.

We also followed existing activities from previous years such as the Halloween party. We had the 'Haunted Room' for the upper levels and the 'Candy Room' dedicated for the KG and primary students to make sure that the children enjoy their sweet tooth. We also celebrated the annual Valentine's Day celebration for two days, where we sold flowers, sweets, and stuffed toys to express gratitude throughout the school. During Valentine's Day, students also had the chance to serenade to their class advisers and show them some love.

The SSG is an integrated committee that was made to help the students, teachers, and its community. We'd like to instill the importance of helping. That's why the SSC was proudly a part of the Chari-tree event, where we facilitated the collection of the donations that were given to an out-of-reach school in the Philippines personally given by our TPS Administration.

During the Christmas week, our organization was also able to become a small "Christmas Santa and Elves

Corporation" by dressing up as Santa. We went to the KG and primary students, where we gave them toy pianos, building blocks, and soccer balls as gifts. We had a 'Jingle Bell' competition for the elementary students. Each class showed their own take on the joyful Christmas spirit. We gave the winning and participating classes their Christmas Rewards. For the high school students, we started the first "Winter Ball" where the competition for Mr. and Ms. Winter was held.

During the Foundation Day, we were able to enhance the experience of the students with the inclusion of the Carnival. There was a food booth, several gaming booths and three bouncy castles. The SSG, with the inclusion of some volunteers, also acted as the Carnival's guides and helpers to help aid the students during their stay inside the carnival.

The Supreme Student Government is an organization aimed to help the school and its community. During the 2016 FISAA Season, we sponsored the school with equipment. We were also able to sponsor the Beautification Program plant boxes, food for the Primary Day Scouting, Foundation Day, help the TPS Insights, and support and aid the 2016 Junior High School Ball.

As the school year is about to end, we hope that you, the students and the com-

munity of this school, are pleased and satisfied with what we've done for you this year

We have more ways to come, but we are happy to have served you. We had our shortcomings but we have done the best to make sure that this year is the most memorable for you.

The Supreme Student Government has earned an estimate of 10,100 AED from the booths and events since the beginning. We've circulated our earnings to make sure that this money will benefit the students.

We plan on buying equipment to make sure that the students can have a better learning experience in school. This is your President writing, on behalf of the SSG Government, thank you!



We were part of the school debate team staying up to early morning hours researching information, and formulating arguments. It was worth it anyway because we challenged not the opponents, we challenged ourselves to be personally excellent and contributory in sharing reasonable views.

As debaters, we were trained to always question statements and facts. We didn't believe statements easily unless they were plausible and backed up with more facts and credible sources. Because of that, we also had to make sure that what we say are reasonable and based on factual details.

Also, the best thing about debate is that it leads to new opportunities to learn and meet new people. I did not get opponents outside the stage, but I gained friends and new connections. I still talk to four people I met during the debate now, and we are forming good relationships. I had an opportunity to meet professionals (writers, editors, photographers) who gave me advices on work and school.

Debate also developed me to be a better individual with extended capabilities.



Best Debaters!

TPSians thrive as champions in TFT debate competition L-R TFT Editor-in-Chief Karen Remo, Champion Team Simond Lars Lenon, Janrel Martin, Francis Foronda, TFT Editor Kristin Bernabe, and Consul Ryan Pondoc Photo from Richard Zulueta's Facebook page



THE PHILIPPINE SCHOOL - DUBAI ANNOUNCEMENT

THE PHILIPPINE SCHOOL is moving to its new and bigger campus located at Muhaisnah 2, Dubai for the School Year 2016 – 2017. In line with this achievement TPS will be offering Senior High School – Grade 11 with concentration on the following tracks:

- Accountancy, Business and Management Strand (ABM)
- Humanities and Social Sciences Strand (HUMSS)
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)
- General Academic Strand (GAS)

Reservation is on a first come – first serve basis, with priority given to TPS students. Reservation starts on May 8, 2016.

Please contact the Registrar's Office for more information at 04-2844465





THE FILIPINO TIMES INTER-SCHOOL DEBATE TOURNAMENT

MAY 14, 2016
SKYLINE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,
UNIVERSITY CITY OF SHARJAH



Poster/ illustration credits to The Filipino Times

New school building after summer



OPINION ||||

Do sports affect academics?

By Glenn Refareal

Many people including students, teachers, and parents immediately think that sports affect academics negatively. That is usually the first idea that comes to the minds most about this topic. We really can't blame them for thinking like this for these reasons.

First, if a person spends too much time on his or her own sport rather than academics this could really be a huge distraction. Secondly, their minds can be focused on something else rather than the priorities. This can be considered negligence of duty.

According to the survey that we conducted, some athletes answered that they can catch up in studies while others complained about getting exhausted in training. What we are implying here is that, sports do affect one's academics, but not only negatively but also positively.

Sports can serve as a person's motivation. It is said that when engaged into sports, people are prone to learn a new topic which can be applied in daily life. There are also values, habits, and practices acquired only from playing sports that can be implemented in other routines. This also proves that learning is not limited within the four corners of the classroom. An example is reflexes. It is an aspect that a student can develop easily on the field.

Factors like this bring out a psychological progress of student athletes. It generally helps a person's well-being.

Grade 10 Anne Jalaug said, "People who participate in sports may tend to have peace of mind because they can release emotions and feelings according to their interest."

"It can also serve as a great recreation for students who experience academic-related stress." Basketball player Frances Mercado said.

Meaning, playing sports or games is a good stress reliever. Athletes have the possibility to think more broad enough to apply analysis and calculation to help them discover much more than what they are taught.

Charles Benamer, who is a chess enthusiast, said, "Chess for example, assists a person improve his strategizing skills." He added that as a student himself, he also needs some of the benefits that sports can give.

Here are the perks of being a student athlete. One is extra-curricular activities. These help them gather points which weigh 30% of overall grades.

It boosts their confidence when they go through proper training, play intense games and exceed skill limits. In terms of social interaction, sports can help them meet new people or make new friends which translates to a better social life.

Grade 10 Marielle Garcia said, "Physical activities make people become more productive due to the fact that they energize the mind and body."

Patrick Michael Dela Cruz, a varsity student, admitted that sports affect his academics saying, "It gives me more motivation to study because if my grades have a failing mark, I might be removed from the team or my parents will make me quit playing the sport I like to play." In TPS, players should maintain a high general average for them to remain in the varsity.

In the end, it all boils down to how responsible a certain student athlete can be. It is really up to that individual whether his or her involvement in sports affect the academics positively or negatively.

"Sports affect academics. It gives me more motivation to study because if my grades have a failing mark, I might be removed from the team or my parents will make me quit playing the sport I like to play."

- Michael De la Cruz

Scribes awarded at 5th KABAYAN press contest

Staff Report

Photo by Jeremiah Cerdon



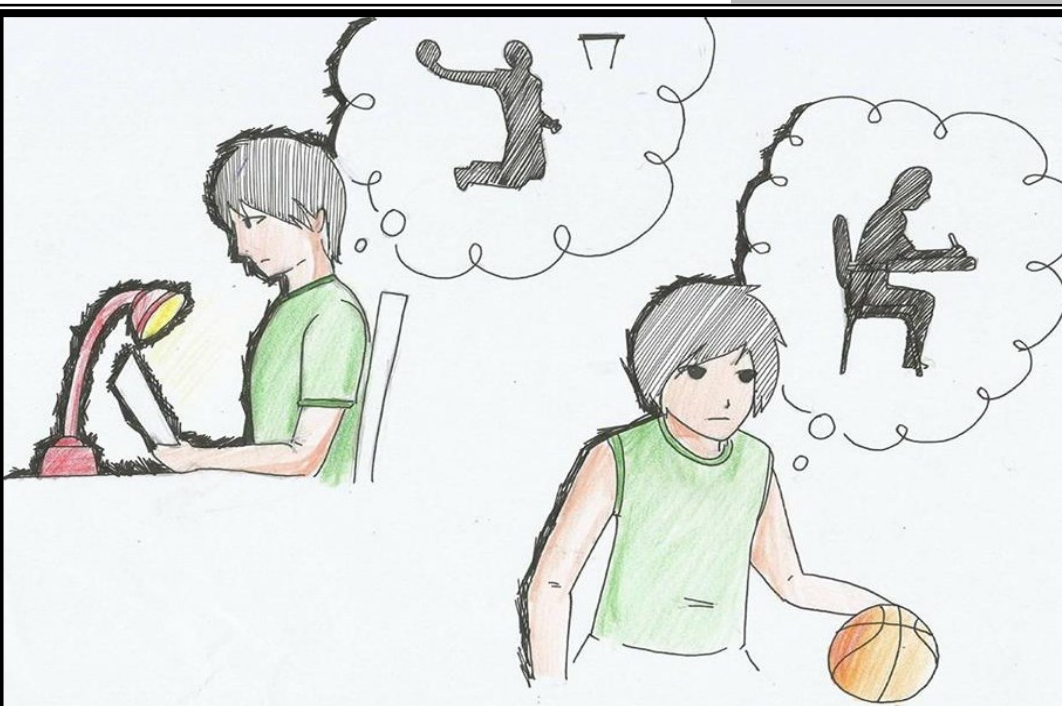
Frances Mercado (3rd from left), TPS Insights Sports Editor, wins gold in KABAYAN journalism contest.



Kingsley Simeon (2nd from left) is second best in photojournalism contest.



Joem Ledesma (second from right) and Paula Tongol (extreme right) garnered 3rd place in layouting contest.



Put on a show
Writers also try cheering skills.

Consul General Paul Raymund Cortes to student journalists: "You are the ones that we will rely on to our country when we exit." (during the 5th KABAYAN journalism contest)

SPORTS

TPS Dragons reclaim champ title overthrowing NFPS Patriots

By Frances Mercado

TPS DXB's Elementary Basketball Boys' Team crushed the prior champions, the New Filipino Private School (NFPS) Patriots by finishing with a shocking 15-point lead.

The basketball championships of the 13th Season of FISAA was held at The Philippine School-Dubai.

The first quarter started off with Jade Monceda scoring his first two points for NFPS; however, TPS caught up and sank seven points straight car-

ried out by Dwight Castillo, Charles Palmes and Koji Palmes.

With 5 points down, NFPS bagged another two-pointer and a free throw in attempt to close in the digits.

Shortly after, TPS knocked down four points, unwilling to be surpassed. NFPS' Jade Monceda once again fires a jumper and notched the final shot of the quarter, narrowing TPS' lead and generating the scores of 11-7.

The Dragons once again reigned the second quarter, scoring 18 points;

refusing to let go of their burgeoning lead. 12 of those points were notched by Koji Palmes, including the first three-point shot of the game while Dwight Castillo by his side bagged 3 two-pointers.

NFPS fell short despite the efforts of Jade Monceda who scored 7 points of the 12 points the Patriots' scored this quarter. The second quarter concluded in favor of TPS once more, with the digits 29-19.

By the end of the third quarter, TPS' lead grew even more, sinking in 8 points while NFPS nabbed 6 result-

ing in the numbers 37-25 on the scoreboard.

After the third quarter's slow pace, both teams seemed to have found their rhythm again. TPS welcomed the fourth quarter with the second three-pointer of the game executed by Cedric James Almazan. It rained two's on each side of the court as the

teams fight to the finish in the crucial quarter. However, as the quarter was closing to an end TPS' Nicholo Jocson was badly injured. He was bumped and fell badly on his right leg, thus making him incapable of walking. Jocson was carried to TPS' bench for immediate treatment in his sustained injury.

Dwight Castillo finished the game with a two-pointer sealing a tight victory for TPS, who knocked down 12 points, and closing the championship game with a staggering 15-point lead, 49-34.

Jade Monceda of NFPS and Koji Palmes (13th FISAA Season's MVP) of TPS were the top scorers of the game, alongside Dwight Castillo.

Castillo of TPS is the 13th FISAA Season Finals MVP. Palmes bagged 18 points as Castillo scored 14 of TPS' 49 points. Monceda nabbed 22 points out of NFPS' 34 points.



February 20, 2016 — **Tied up** TPS Dragons Charles Palmes forces a hook shot as he dismantles the defense of NFPS Patriots on their championship match.
Photo by Alexis Manalastas

High School basketball team finished clean sweep record in 13th FISAA

By Frances Mercado

The TPS Dragons defeated the NFPS Patriots in the first game with a score of 72-40, and the FEPS Falcons on their second game 65-36.

These blowout games in the preliminaries ensured their spot for the championship game held at The Philippine School, Dubai on the 20th of February 2016.

The Far Eastern Private School was the other team to advance to the finals and once again go head-to-head with TPS.

The championship game started with a close, tight battle. Jc Bautista, TPS' team captain, started the final game scoring 2 early points from a put back.

TPS' new 9th grader Erwin Monteloyola stepped up the biggest as he was awarded the Finals MVP award.

The TPS team received various contributions from Peter Rueda's booming triples, Patrick Dela Cruz's power rebounds and Josh Ortiz's flashing assists.

Almost every single member of the TPS Dragons was able to fill out the stat sheet. Jc Bautista displayed his best performance, and he was awarded as this FISAA season's MVP, while Peter Rueda and Nikko Certeza were declared as a part of the season's Mythical 5.

They sealed the deal and won the third championship of TPS' basketball division that day, dismantling FEPS with an astounding 71-54.

<https://images.search.yahoo.com>



Photo by Myla Jalaug Frewen





Golden Dragons HS girls noses out Patriots' dribblers in championship game, 45-40

By Erin Abadilla



TPS Dragons Bea Castillo throws a basket on the baseline on their championship match over NFPS Patriots.

February 20, 2016- Golden Dragons high school girls shade over Patriots cagers in the second half of the championship game, 45-40 at The Philippine School's home court.

The championship game was held as part of the 13th season of FISAA (Filipino Interscholar Athletic Association) which is commemorated annually.

This season's MVP is Frances Mercado (Jersey 10) with the total points of 17, while the final MVP in finals is Patricia Cuevas (Jersey 4), who earned 10 points

On the other hand, Bea Castillo (Jersey 3) and Aimee Hular (Jersey 9) were part of the Mythical 5.

With 9 personal team fouls and more than 15 field goals attempted in the first half of the game by TPS,

NFPS towered over the Dragons with a 2 -basket lead.

In the second half of the game, however, the man-to-man decisive play by TPS took its toll on Patriots- even-

tually leading to the final score of 45-40 in favor of TPS.

Alexis Manalastas Aimee Hular, and Anne Jalaug guarded Andrei Paranes of Patriots who scored 20 points out of the 40 points of NFPS.

During the game, the three guards shift whenever the current guard is tired. The decisive play prevented Paranes from scoring field goals and making rebounds.

With a second left of the last quarter, the game ended with a foul from NFPS which stopped the time and led to the final set of two free throws for Mercado of the Golden Dragons; scoring one point with one attempted free throw.

TPS Lady Dragons soar over FEPS Lady Falcons for volleyball crown

By Anne Jalaug and Clarence Cueto

February 13, 2016- The TPS Lady Dragons dominated the game after sweeping the FEPS Lady Falcons in their second game against each other, 25-11, 25-12, 26-24 in the 13th Season of the Filipino Interscholar Athletic Association.

The Lady Dragons started strong on the first set. Patricia Cuevas is leading the game with 11 consecutive service aces. As the FEPS Lady Falcons were visibly unable to receive the attacks, Kallai Ocampo and Myxen Montes of TPS took this chance to greatly contribute to the teams score. Thus, the Lady Dragons earned set one, 25-11.

With the FEPS Lady Falcons scoring the first point for the second set, the Lady Dragons were quick to respond with a solid attack by Myxen Montes to give TPS its first point. Service errors by the TPS Lady Dragons gave the FEPS Lady Falcons a lead but it was short lived as the Lady Dragons answered with strong services and attacks mainly by Bea Castillo, Myxen Montes and Patricia Cuevas. The TPS Lady Dragons left the second set with an outstanding 13-point lead.

The third set started out with an outside attack from Krizia Blanco of FEPS, and Patricia Cuevas' strong service.

The TPS Lady Dragons' weak receives left the FEPS Lady Falcons a chance to catch up and tie the game at 17-all.

A double attack made by Bea Castillo once again put TPS on top. Both teams being careful on their plays resulted into a thrilling rally and was ended by Patricia Cuevas' toss.

Through the efforts of Krizia Blanco, Sophia Rojas and Sara Heshmat the FEPS Lady Falcons had a one-point lead, 24-23. But a crucial service error was committed by De Guzman of FEPS, once again letting both teams have a tied score, 24-24.

A back to back set and attack by Myxen Montes and Kallai Ocampo ended the



Preparation TPS Lady Dragons huddles to uplift their spirits before their game against FEPS Lady Falcons at The Philippine School Volleyball court.

game, 26-25.

It was indeed an incredible ending for the yellow and blue team, who lost their first game against the FEPS Lady Falcons before sweeping their next 2 games to win the title.

Myxen Montes officially received her MVP award, Kallai Ocampo with the "Best Setter" award, Bea Castillo as the "Best Spiker," while Patricia Cuevas, Erika

Parcia and Keisha Manalo received the honor of joining the mythical six.

This win for The Philippine School Dubai will go down in history as the first time the Lady Dragons have won the High School Girls Volleyball Championship since their participation in FISAA.

SPORTS

Football team captain injured in 13th FISAA season

by Glenn Refareal

It was a rough one-day tournament for TPS football squad when they competed against NFPS and FEPS in the preliminaries of Football games. Our Football team suffer loss on two consecutive games that immediately got them out of contention.

The first game didn't seem like a blow-out as TPS showed little signs of comeback. It was a few minutes after the start of the 2nd half when things went south. TPS Football team captain and striker Kingsley Simeon

played in tandem with left wing JC Romero, and was able to steal the ball from NFPS' possession.

Shortly after he took a hard blow to his left knee and after a slide tackle by NFPS in efforts to reclaim the ball, the TPSian striker was unable to walk and move his leg after sustaining the hit. This prevents him from returning to the game. The first game ended with a final score of 0-4 in favor of NFPS.

The second game against FEPS was even drawback with the team losing a key player and having several own goals just in the first half. Recognizable faces were seen in the opposing team for the school. I know like Kenneth Daniel, who was once a student in The Philippine School.

The final score of the 2nd game was 0-7 in favor of FEPS.

The TPS Football team exited the tournament scoreless with their captain severely injured and left with crutches. He will have four months of physical rehabilitation.

Head coach Jey Pusta still applauded for his team as they have shown strong significance of "the spirit of competitiveness" against all odds.

Team captain Mark Kingsley Simeon said, "I expect that next year's football team to be more prepared, focused, and determined despite this year's loss. I expect to us to take that as an inspiration to be better. I am looking forward to next year's FISAA season. I want us to win a championship for the school. I know we have a fight against the others but it's just a matter of hard work and determination if you want to make a difference. As I always say, Dream, Believe, and Achieve."



TPS Football League team leader Mark Kingsley Simeon was carried by his teammates after getting an injury on their match against NFPS.

TPSian smashers emerged as champs in recent FISAA

by Yana Bautista

Photo by Chris Gallardo

TPSians wiped out their opponents (NFPS and FEPS) in the HS girls and boys division - FISAA's badminton event. This led to a finals match between fellow TPSians fighting for the gold.

In the boys' division, Miko Mosarbas and Matthew Villanueva played against each other for the championship. Mosarbas triumphed in both sets (21-11, 9-6) making him the overall champion and Villanueva as the 1st runner up.

On the other hand, Christine Gallardo and Lian Garcia faced one another in the girls' division. Gallardo, with the scores of 21-17, 21-10, won both sets obtaining the champion title and Garcia becoming the 1st runner up.

The games were held back in February 9, 2016 at CUCA University for the 13th Season of FISAA.



Christine Gallardo (left) and Miko Mosarbas (right) named champions in their respective divisions after a one day tournament for the 13th season of FISAA held in CUCA.



TPS Sepak Takraw subdues NFPS, FEPS

By Erin Abadilla

Photo by Glen Refareal

Sepak Takraw Dragons arose victorious over Falcons (FEPS) and Patriots (NFPS) in a long one-day game event held last February 12, 2016 in TPS Dubai.

TPS won 4 out of 6 regus in total- twice out of 3 regus in the second match against FEPS, and twice out of 3 regus in the third match against NFPS, winning 2 out of 3 games. The wins sealed their champion standing.

So far, the Sepak Takraw Dragons remain the defending champion after two consecutive wins - this year and last school year, until another school claims the title in the future.

Captain Ball Kaiser Judge Guevarra, Striker John Carlo Angeles, and Feeder Ralph Navarro were the Mythical three. Special awards were also given to them. Kaiser Guevarra was Best in Tekong, John Angeles was Best Striker, and Ralph Navarro was awarded as Best Feeder.

Coach Noly Duquen trained them not only about the sport, but also the important traits of an athlete. Discipline was as significant as concentration and alertness. Five push-ups also served as punishment for each mistake, may it be for a wrong fancy kick or a service over.

The Dragons were triumphant despite a critical stage in their game against FEPS. Although TPS won the first regu of this game, the Falcons claimed regu 2, which meant that the Dragons had to win the third regu in order to be declared winner of the second game.

The match against NFPS turned out similarly; however, the Patriots were not infallible since they were already overwhelmed by FEPS in the first game. Things were looking up for TPS and once again, the Dragons won the game.

Although there were significant mistakes in kicks and strikes that lead to point opportunities for the opponent, the champion title was retained.

SPORTS ||||



TPS Intramurals 2016
Photo by Alexis Manalastas