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INSPIRE TO RISE

The Knowledge School Network

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TKS Fatima Campus, Multan



Independence Day Celebration

Promoting Patriotism among Students

Every year, August 14 is marked as Pakistan's Independence Day on the calendar; Pakistanis celebrate sovereignty of their nation from the British monarchy in 1947.

The 70th Independence Day was celebrated with full vim and vigor by TKS Campuses to promote patriotism among the students. Schools paid tribute to the heroes of Pakistan whose efforts and struggles resulted in the creation of a democratic and independent nation. Variety of cultural programs were organized by students to understand the nature of struggle and sacrifices of our ancestors. The celebrations included a range of events from decorating the campuses with colorful flags, to patriotic songs and speeches which captivated the audience. Skits were also presented by the students of different classes to showcase and commemorate the freedom struggle. Pakistan is a country with millions of people living together irrespective of their religions, cultures and traditions. They celebrate this special occasion with great joy. On this day, being a Pakistani, we should feel proud and must take an oath to be loyal and patriotic citizens of this great country.



TKS Shahab Campus, Bahawalpur



TKS National Campus, Sambrial



TKS Shalamar Campus, Lahore



Chairman's Message



“ Pakistan is a country of diversity where all people irrespective of their cast and creed are free, united and have high aspirations and knowledge to progress for the nation. The engagement and participation of youth is essential to achieve sustainable development of a nation.

Thousands suffered and sacrificed their lives for the independence that we enjoy today. Now, it is our turn to make them proud with our deeds and promise to fulfill our responsibility of taking Pakistan to the top.

May together we make a better Pakistan! ”

Prof Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad,
Chairman
The Knowledge School Network

TKS In-House Training Programs

Classroom Management

The Department of Training at TKS conducted cluster based training at Peshawar on May 13, 2017. The following topics were focused upon:

- Theme oriented, skilled based curriculum for preschools of TKS
- Financial management of schools
- Teacher as a change agent and leader
- Communication skills
- Activity based English language teaching
- How to get good grades



The Department of Training at TKS arranged TNA based training session on “Empowering Teachers” for Gondal Campus, City Campus and Iqbal Campus Sialkot in July 2017. The trainers discussed the ways to empower teachers to build a positive and innovative school culture in Pakistan. They affirmed the value of empowered teachers by analyzing the challenges they encountered to access professional development opportunities, high quality training, and the professional autonomy to choose the appropriate methods and approaches for effective teaching.

IKL Arranges Training Session for TKS Head Office Team

The Institute of Knowledge and Leadership (IKL) arranged a training session for TKS Head Office Team on June 22, 2017. Amir Qureshi, IKL Director, conducted a training session on “Solving Problems” and “Managing Teams.” In the session, Amir Qureshi discussed different approaches for problem solving and how to resolve team conflict and make stronger team by facing their differences. To make the session more interactive, different activities were carried out and some very practical examples from the corporate sector were also quoted by the trainer. As a successful leader, he considered that one should identify the strengths and weaknesses of his team then start tackling problems as a powerful team to create a competitive advantage for the organization. During the session, he also invited questions, valued everyone's opinion and gave all the participants an equal chance to share their views.



The Bionic Teacher-Unleash the Power Within

TKS Head Office arranged a cluster based training session on “The Bionic Teacher- Unleash the Power Within” on April 26, 2017 at Hotel Royal Palace, Rawalpindi. More than fifty teachers, principals and NWAs attended the session. Zahid Waraich, CEO TKS and COO ILM, Gul-e-Zehra Abbas, Head of Trainings, and Nabiha Naeem, Training Officer, were the trainers. Following topics were discussed during the session:

- How to get maximum admissions in your school
- Financial management of school
- Teacher as a change agent and leader
- Communication skills
- Activity based English language teaching
- How to get good grades



Syed Bilal Qutab Visit to TKS

The Department of Training at TKS arranged a guest speaker session where Syed Bilal Qutub, a renowned scholar, was invited to share his knowledge with TKS staff about “Character Building” on May 9, 2017. Bilal Qutub shed some light upon the topic in his own signature style of being very soft yet assertive. He discussed the importance of “Character Building” in term of guiding young people about a positive future full of confidence, motivation, creativity, teamwork, leadership and valuable life principles. He believed that only two factors show a significant direct link in improving good character and effectively prevent bad behavior: positive relationships with one's family and a sense of connectedness to school.



Campus Activities

Color of the Day

With an objective to recapitulate and reinforce the effects of different colors, TKS Fatima Campus, Multan, celebrated "Color of the Day" along with number of activities. Children brought different objects such as toys, decorative items and drawings based on the theme.



Summer Day

TKS Shahab Campus, Bahawalpur, celebrated "Summer Day" in August, 2017. It was a great time for the students to carry out some fun learning activities related to summer.



Profession Day

Children at school will have more thoughtful answers to the eternal question "What do you want to be when you grow up?" if they have proper knowledge about it. TKS Fatima Campus, Multan, celebrated "Profession Day" in May, 2017. Students dressed up in different costumes according to their profession. Students had an opportunity to learn about different exciting professions in the world. This activity encouraged children to think about what they might want to be when they grow up.



Go Green Day

TKS Gondal Campus celebrated "Go Green Day" and engaged students in different hands-on activities to enhance students' environmental learning on August 25, 2017.



Mother's Day

TKS Fatima Campus, Multan, celebrated "Mother's Day" in May, 2017. Students expressed their love and affection by making cards for their mothers. The cards were presented to their mothers as a token of love by the students.



The Parent-Teacher Partnership

School, teachers and parents play a vital role in holistic development of the child. Parents' engagement is an important part of student's success. In a nutshell, this relationship is a two sided affair as both the partners have to hold on to the values and principles of their relationship for achieving a common goal which is "Building the Future of Nation." The Knowledge School is making its utmost efforts to ensure that both partners are provided a common platform to achieve their ultimate goal.

TKS would like to thank all parents who have attended "Parents Teachers Meetings" over the last academic year and appreciate their support and involvement. By working in partnership, we are able to secure the best possible future for our students.



Parental Surveys

TKS is working to strengthen partnerships between schools and families in order to help children perform better and get all stakeholders' opinion related to the school. Our plan is to provide parental survey at every school event which will give parents an opportunity to provide feedback on issues related to the school or raise any concerns or points for development.



Tab Distribution in TKS Quetta Campus

Atif Hussaini, Country Head of Pakistan Literacy Program, visited TKS Quetta Campus in May 2017. He distributed computers and tabs amongst the students and teachers to encourage their outstanding performances. Education is the most vital human right and it plays a key role in human, social and economic development. Atif stated that investing in education yields potential development of the nation. All TKS campuses in Baluchistan participated in this ceremony.



Health is Wealth!

Health is as valuable as wealth, if not more. We value our health. It is crucially important to take care of our own and others' health. We can be more productive and hard working when we are healthy. If we are not healthy, we cannot enjoy our material wealth.

TKS Gondal Campus held a free Medical Camp for its students, teachers and parents. The Camp was organized by the doctors from Lady Aitchison Hospital Lahore. The Camp offered blood pressure, diabetes and cardio-related tests. In addition, doctors provided free counseling to the patients.



The Effective Teacher

By Etti Seigel

What makes an effective teacher? When I ask teachers who attend my workshops over the years about their own experiences related to their work, the answers that poured in ended up being similar.

"Engaging lessons"

"Warm but in control"

"Cared about us"

"Led me to wanting to be a teacher"

"Believed in me"

"He treated me like a human being"

"She loved her lessons and made us love them, too"

"She loved questions"

"He was strict and fair, and gave us grades we deserved. I learned a lot that year"

Looking back, they all realized that they were not impressed with the most well meaning teacher if that teacher was not prepared to teach. They all slowly nodded their heads in realization when I asked if they could tell when their teacher was bluffing or really knew her stuff. Teachers who had to constantly refer to notes, or stuck to the textbook and would not take questions did not engender respect.

"Hi, Mrs Siegel? I am calling to ask you what to do about my class this year. I took your courses and realize that something is going wrong. Can you help me to figure out what it might be?"

While every teacher is concerned about classroom management, what many don't realize is that proper preparation solves most of the issues that otherwise might come up. When I went spent a day with the teacher to troubleshoot and try to help her to figure out what the problem might be, with reluctance, she admitted to being flummoxed by the students' questions. I switched gears and asked her about her preparation for the class.

"To be honest, I always aced school. I got my material and curriculum list before the summer, but I didn't think it was going to be so difficult! I thought I could walk into 8th grade ready to teach if I just reviewed the subject material the night before."

I suggested she read much more than just the history book she was covering in the class, reminding her that a well prepared teacher knows more than her students. I also asked her to view the next day as a big exam, whereby she was to be tested on all the material in the four chapters covering the time span she was teaching about.

"Okay, I will. Can we talk about the children who are misbehaving?"

There was no need for that conversation at the moment. Research by Marzano, Pickering and

Pollock (2001) agreed with what I was finding anecdotally in classrooms; the effective teacher uses effective instruction strategies to create a strong learning environment and works to create a classroom curriculum that facilitates such learning and provides effective classroom management strategies to control the learning environment. This clearly shows the importance of planning process.

I called that teacher next night to check in.

"It was awesome! I felt like I knew everything, they felt my confidence, and I wasn't flustered by questions. Their behavior was so much better!"

When a teacher is well prepared there is a road map for the teacher to follow, which takes into account the student engagement and using the time effectively (Integrated Course Design, Fink, D. L., 2005). There is less time for the class to get off-task, as the teacher is ready and able to keep the class attuned to the objective. The teacher is not checking notes or stammering; the teacher's confidence is felt by the class.

While there still are students who will misbehave and go off-task, the well prepared teacher has the class as a whole under control and can deal with those outliers as needed.

A well prepared lesson is one where the teacher has objectives firmly stated in her mind, on the board and in her lessons.

- What do I want the students to know?
- How will I know that they know it?
- How will I teach them the material so that they will be able to show me their mastery of the material I want them to know? (Center for Research on Learning and Teaching)

Curriculum mapping should be done by the teacher, so she knows the pace of lesson. Some sections need to be taught in great detail, while others might require glossing over due to time constraints. A well prepared teacher knows which part of the unit is vital for in-depth analysis and which is not.

Lesson planning is a road map, teacher should be prepared well. It helps a teacher to anticipate the potential problems that might arise and questions that students might have, as well as provides structure for the day which creates an orderly and well run class. Lesson planning is also great for record keeping if the teacher goes back and adds notes after the fact; not only they can be of great help for creating assessments, they also guide a teacher the year after as to what worked and what didn't.

A good lesson has warm-up of 1-5 minute activity

that brings the class to the subject at hand and it can be anything from reviewing homework to a short joke or story. An engaging lesson draws and builds on the prior knowledge which is as relevant as possible. It involves checking of understanding and class engagement built in the lesson and wrap up of 3-5 minutes of reviewing and previewing of assigned homework or a summary of the lesson.

Great lesson involves hands-on and go through gradual release of responsibility, where the students are taught and moved through the steps of collaboration until they can perform tasks themselves.

All lessons need preparation which leads to classroom management.



"She who controls the classroom environment controls the classroom behavior." Betsy Weigle

Etti Siegel is an Adjunct Professor, Teacher, Coach, Mentor and Workshop Presenter. Etti brings sound teaching advice to her audiences culled from her over 30 years of teaching and administrative experience. Etti has mentored and helped countless educators, student teachers and parents. She has transformed many difficult experiences in the classroom into a positive year of growth in learning. Her dynamic style and many practical workshops have been praised by principals as well as veteran and novice teachers. With a BA in Organizational Management, and an MS in Teaching and Learning/Educational Leadership qualification, Etti's personal thirst for growth is constantly benefiting those who learn from her.

Key Dates

October 2017

Rahim Yar Khan Cluster Training

26th October 2017

NWA Training Session in Murree

November 2017

Hyderabad and Karachi Cluster Training

3rd November

Story Telling (English)

3rd November

EWC (Essay Writing Competition)

9th November

Allama Iqbal Day

10th November

Quiz on Allama Iqbal

17th November

World Children's Day

20th – 30th November

2nd Term Examination (ETA)

December 2017

Okara Cluster Training

9th December

Orange Colour & Orange Party Day

9th December

Parent Teacher Meeting (PTM 4)

12th December

Story Telling (Urdu)

12th December

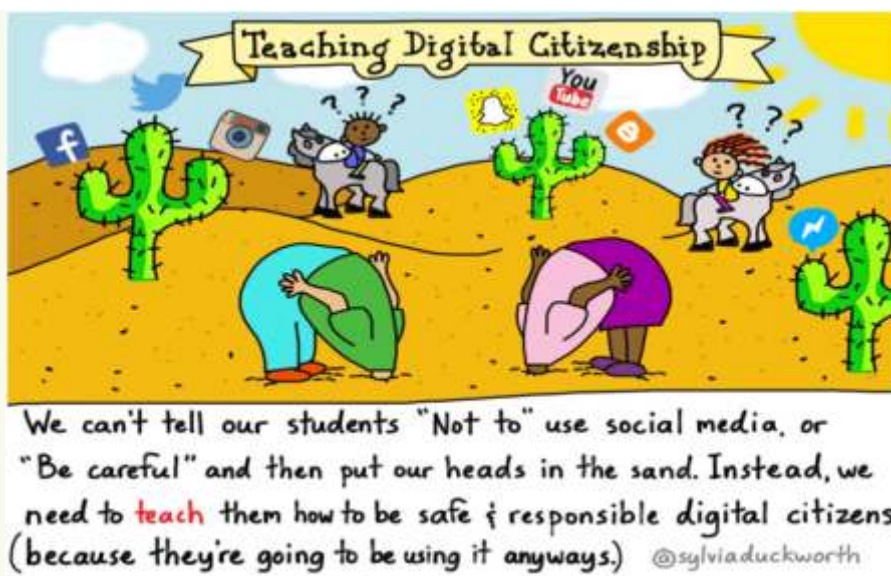
TKS Matholatics Competition

15th December

Naat & Qirat Competition

25th December

Quaid Day



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TKS News is the official newspaper of The Knowledge School Network (TKS) published quarterly, for promoting the Campus news.

TKS News is the voice of TKS community, students, teachers and staff. You can take part or contribute to the newspaper in multiple ways. All writers are welcomed to send their real-life stories, adventure stories, cartoons, jokes, anecdotes, poetry and articles.

If you would like to share something related to TKS News or you want to give suggestions about your School, this is the platform to do so! Email us at tknews@tk.edu.pk